# Salpan Iribune Volume XXVII, Issue No. 70

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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MONDAY APRIL 10, 2017

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# Homeless count nets 100

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION



Members and volunteers of the CNMI Homeless Coalition have their photo taken in front of the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.

## By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

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partial count of the number of homeless in the CNMI has resulted in a **count** of 100.

According to CNMI Homeless Coalition chair Vivian Sablan, they prepared about 500 surveys but only 100 were filled out. As of now, the coalition is basing the number of homeless on the surveys that got responses.

"We counted a hundred homeless," Sablan said.

The group, considered the newest coalition in the CNMI, did its first homeless count last Saturday, April 8, 2017, called Point-In-Time Homeless Count. The coali-

See HOMELESS on Page 4

## NPS: Compliance issues resulted in move

**DUE TO BAD VIP DEBTS** 

By ERWIN ENCINARES

erwin\_encinares@saipantribune.com REPORTER

As per tradition, the Taste of the Marianas Festival usually takes place at the American Memorial Park. This year, it is moving to the Garapan

Fishing Base, due to compliance issues with the proposed spot for 2017.

In an email to Saipan Tribune, National Park Service superintendent Jim Richardson said that NPS, which operates the park, had expected the

See NPS on Page 4

## MBA student to represent territories at Geographic bee

By ERWIN ENCINARES

erwin encinares@saipantribune.com

A student from Marianas Baptist Academy would be representing the U.S. Pacific territories at the upcoming 2017 National Geographic bee in Washington, D.C. after placing first in the state qualifying bee last March 31, beating other schools

in the region.

Joanah Jimenez, a 7th grader at MBA, placed first in the state qualifying bee of the 2017 National Geographic Bee. She and her mother have already received an invitation to attend the nationals at the National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington, D.C. this May 14 to 17.

"I feel nervous, excited and, at the

same time, hopeful," said Jimenez.

MBA represented the Pacific territories in last year's competition as well. Coach and MBA geography and history teacher Manuel Castro said this is actually an advantage for the school.

"We are trying to prepare for the competitions. Last year, MBA rep-See MBA on Page 4 By STEVEN STRADBROOKE

CALVINAYRE.COM

A credit ratings agency is expressing more concern over Saipan casino operator Imperial Pacific International Holdings(IPI) difficulties in collect-

Imperial Pacific at'very high'risk of default ing VIP gambling debts.

On Thursday, Moody's Investor Service cut its rating on IPI by one notch to Caa1, the second time in three months that Moody's has downgraded IPI. Moody's warned

See IMPERIAL on Page 4

## INSIDE



## LOCAL

Docomo Pacific's Susupe branch opens its doors to the public.

**PAGE 13** 



## **LOCAL**

The first Mentor a MYPro event had 46 participants, including 20 new members.

**PAGE 16** 



## LOCAL

Triple J Saipan Inc. donates a total of \$30,000 to 13 different schools.

**PAGE 18** 



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE **QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED** ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

2 MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Local

## **Kilili congratulates Torres**

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) issued the following statement regarding the meeting of Marianas Gov. Ralph Torres with President Donald Trump on Tuesday last week.

"Governor Torres called me last night to report on the meeting he had with President Trump. I congratulated the governor for being able to raise the issue of parole for Chinese tourists in the Marianas to the highest level and for the positive response he received from the President.

"Chinese tourists are extremely important to the Marianas economy. They now account for 35 percent of all visitors. Their number is growing. And the parole system is the simplest way for the Chinese to gain entry

to our islands.

"I have been concerned about the continuation of this special tourism parole that was established in the early days of the Obama administration by administrative action. President Trump's executive order of Jan. 25 specifically directs the Sec-

**Aurora Airlines Features The Marianas** 

retary of Homeland Security to review uses of parole that may not be authorized by law. So, the congressional office has been providing information to Homeland Security about the continued value to the Marianas of the tourist parole system. And the Governor's Office prepared a white paper on the subject, which, I understand, has been submitted to the White House.

"Again, I congratulate the governor for the work he is doing, and I will continue to work with him to maintain our access to critical tourism markets." (PR)





n cooperation with the Marianas Visitors
Authority, Russian airline Aurora Airlines
featured The Marianas the March 2017 issue
of its inflight magazine, bringing stunning
images of the islands to passengers. Aurora
Airlines is based in Vladivostok and has
regular flights from Vladivostok to Seoul and
other cities in Asia, as well as throughout

Airlines is based in Vladivostok and has regular flights from Vladivostok to Seoul and other cities in Asia, as well as throughout Russia. The advertorial aims at promoting traveling to The Marianas among an audience with above-average income, depicting the most popular tourist attractions of the destination. Aurora magazine distributes 6,000 copies monthly, and the March feature was estimated to bring The Marianas \$9,000 in ad exposure value.



## **Upcoming Events**

Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden Every Saturday in May, 6-10 p.m., Garapan Fishing Base

Tourism Month May 2017



www.mymarianas.com



# MAKING EACH 20 17 DAY COUNT May 15-19, 2017

Join the CHCC's

Community Guidance Center
in educating CNMI on healthy
living and the power of PREVENTION
to help prevent substance abuse and
mental health disorders











## SAIPAN, ROTA & TINIAN POSTER CONTEST

(Grade School & Middle School Students)

\*Due on May 10, 2017 at 4:30 PM

\*Use 11" x 17" poster (If needed, pick-up at Prevention Offices)

\*Any Art Medium (No print, digital artwork, & photography)

\*Prizes includes Art supplies, featured on 2018 NPW Calendar, and more!

#### SPIRIT WEEK

(High School Students)

\*May 15, 2017 (Monday) through May 18, 2017 (Thursday)
\*First 10 students that follow the theme will get a prize!

## THEMES:

Monday, May 2017 - Too Smart To Do Tobacco: Wear your class shirt or color. Tuesday, May 16, 2017 - Team Up Against Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs; Hats and Sports Day

Wednesday, May 17, 2017 - Prescription Drugs Misuse: Super Hero Day Dress up like your favorite superhero

Thursday, May 18, 2017 - Marijuana Prevention: Twinsie Day (Slogan: A friend in deed, won't make you smoke that weed.") Dress up like your friend who has a positive influence in you, life.

## **CNMI NATIONAL PREVENTION WEEK**

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

SAIPAN: Charnessa "Chenny" Lizama npwcnmi@gmail.com

(6/0) 323-6560

TINIAN: Keith Nabors

tiniantyphoon@hotmail.com

(670) 433-6572

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benedicta.sannicolas@gmail.com

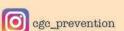
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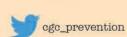


This advertisement is made possible by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration with CHCC: Community Guidance Center - Substance Abuse Prevention Services Unit.









## Chamber reiterates support for Torres, Sablan efforts

**By JON PEREZ** jon\_perez@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce continues to rally behind the combined efforts of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) in resolving immigration and labor issues in the CNMI.

Chamber president Velma Palacios gave this assurance, saying this is a critical issue for the CNMI since tourism is the Commonwealth's main source of revenue.

"Our economy relies on this as we continue to grow our tourism industry. [The Marianas Visitors Authority] continues to report that our tourism arrivals from China, aside from Korea and Japan, are increasing," she said.

Torres met with President Trump on Tuesday last week at the White House while Camacho's bill, H.R. 339, is currently awaiting action at the U.S. Senate after passing the House early this year.

Visitors from China, Korea, Japan, and Russia enjoy visa-free travel to the CNMI. The Chinese and Russian markets enter the CNMI via the parole system while Japan and Korea enter via the visa waiver program.

Since 2014, visitor arrivals in the CNMI continue to increase. That number surpassed the 500,000 mark from January to December in 2016. Recent statistics released by the MVA for the month of February showed that arrivals jumped by 21 percent or 57,320 compared to 47,281 in the same month last year.

"We continue to support the governor's efforts to bring the CNMI's critical issues to Washington D.C., especially the China [entry] program," Palacios said.

Palacios said the increasing tourism numbers translate to job opportunities for all. "We have seen an economic growth in the CNMI—more tourist arrivals, hotel occupancy increasing, new businesses and investments being opened. This all translates to more job opportunities for our residents. The [tourist entry] program is essential for us to sustain our economy and secure its continued growth."

MVA managing director Chris Concepcion, in an earlier statement, said they had made great strides in promoting the CNMI as a prime

destination for the Commonwealth's key markets.

Their aggressive marketing campaign had resulted in the highest number of visitor arrivals in the CNMI in more than 10 years. "This year, we look to build on that progress by enhancing our unique resources to attract untapped, high-yield markets.

Concepcion, however, added that infrastructure also needs to be addressed, particularly the Francisco C. Ada/ Saipan International Airport. "Our airport is the first and last thing our visitors see, so it remains critical that we come together to address its issues."

"We thank our partners in the airline industry for their continued partnership as we steer our tourism industry in the right direction. Without them, there would be no tourism industry to speak of."

#### **Labor issues**

Workforce is another area that the Chamber is closely monitoring. "We [also] continue to support the efforts being done by Gov. Torres and Delegate Sablan in addressing our workforce requirements under the CW-1 program," said Palacios.

"As businesses, we continue to hire and train qualified U.S. applicants. With the growing economy, we still need more workers from our foreign labor force."

HR 339, Sablan's bill, would give temporary relief if President Trump signs it into law before the fiscal year ends. The CW-1 cap was breached early in fiscal years 2016 and 2017.

HR 339 aims to increase the numerical cap to 15,000 and would also raise the education fee for each approved CW permit of a foreign worker from \$150 to \$200, with the funds going to training of U.S. qualified workers.

"We would continue to monitor the situation. Whether it gets approved or not in the Senate, we're going to work with the administration in finding a long term solution to this issue," said Palacios.

## **Torres-Trump meeting**

Torres, on Tuesday (Wednesday in the CNMI), met with Trump and White House





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chief of staff Reince Priebus at the Oval Office where he informed the President of the importance of the CNMI visa and CW-1 programs.

He said that Trump assured that he will assist the CNMI in all of its immigration and labor concerns.

"The President has assured me that he will make sure our economy continues to grow so we can continue to address our challenges and provide more economic opportunities for you and your families," said Torres, who also met with Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke.





Includes: Daily made appetizers, Crisp greens salad bar with condiments and choices of dressings, make your own sandwiches, Choices of freshly bake breads, Assorted Cheese platter and Nuts, Local fruits, Mouth watering desserts, Cakes, Ice cream and Bottomless Coca-Cola Soda fountain.

For reservation please call Aqua Resort Club @ 322-1234 ext. 731 or 732 Please inquire also for group parties from 10 to 160 seats (Christening, Birthdays, Meetings or Seminars)

## Register for NMC's summer session

The Northern Marianas College is inviting new and current students to enroll in its summer session so they can earn additional credits toward their degree and accelerate their path to graduation. The summer session includes business, education, math, nursing, and social sciences courses.

Those who have not ap-

plied for admission can still do so by visiting the college's Office of Admissions and Records to pick up an application form; application forms can also be downloaded from the NMC website. The deadline to submit admission applications for the summer 2017 semester is on May 12, 2017.

Note the other summer ses-

sion dates below:

- Ongoing until May 5, 2017: Academic advising and registration period (for ongoing students)
- May 12, 2017: Summer 2017 admission application deadline
- May 29 –June 2, 2017: Registration (for new and readmitted students)
  - June 5, 2017: First day of

classes for summer session

Students who were enrolled during the fall 2016 and/or spring 2017 semester are considered ongoing students, so there is no need to re-apply for admissions

For more information, contact Manny Castro at 237-6771 or via email at manny. castro@marianas.edu, or visit marianas.edu. (NMC)

## receiving services from nonprofit organizations like the

The first two surveys were

Nida Palconit, Hard Rock Café's operations manager, the homeless count.

"I saw this count on Facebook and I wanted to join outreach programs ... The one thing I miss most is helping

According to Palconit,

"It was somewhat difficult. There were abstractions like the road was narrow and we

It was, however, a rewarding experience and she wouldn't mind doing it again. "If there was a next count, I

Palconit said this count should be done regularly as it could greatly impact the

chance to represent the region. The NGB is a geography competition for public schools, private schools, and home schools in the U.S. and its territories, as well as De-

dents schools. Once the number of contestants has been whittled down to the top 10, the contest would be televised on the National Geographic Channel and Nat Geo WILD broadcast on May 19, 8pm EDT or May

# ister of Historic Places.

Similar default warnings Prior to announcing that have been expressed by Fitch Ratings Inc, which downgraded IPI's credit rating in January based on the company's strategy of dealing directly

## Another Marriage Encounter Weekend coming up The next CNMI Marriage Encounter Weekend takes place at the Kanoa Resort Saipan on April 28-30, 2017 where

the entire weekend. A series of presentations are made by the presenting team, consisting of three married couples and one priest.

couples reside at the resort for

Marriage Encounter Weekends have been presented in the CNMI since the '80s. Decades of research, planning and tried and true wisdom have gone into the content of the Weekend and how it unfolds for couples and religious. ME asks that all participants attend all talks and participate intently using the tools with their spouse in order to maximize their experience.

All sharing between spouses is private, and this is not a weekend to resolve every problem. The Weekend begins around 7pm on Friday, continuing all day Saturday and Sunday, culminating in a special event Sunday after-

that IPI was at "very high" risk

of defaulting on its debts and

said further downgrades were

Moody's downgrade was

based in part on revelations

in IPI's 2016 annual report,

which detailed the growing

volume of bad debt writeoffs

and increasingly dubious

receivables on IPI's led-

gers. Last year, IPI wrote off

\$38.6m of its high rollers'

debt as unrecoverable, took a

\$109m impairment on other

debts and indicated that an

additional \$135.1m was over

Saipan gaming regulators

dealings with VIPs ensure

that the company thorough-

ly vets its customers but

Moody's suggested that IPI's

bad debt figures are "indica-

tive of its weak management

of accounts receivables."

Moody's expressed concern

over IPI's "liquidity position

and the sustainability of its

business model."

seven months overdue.

their markers.

likely in the medium term.

**IMPERIAL** 

From Page 1

noon. Participants are asked to have dinner on Friday evening prior to registration, and arrange coverage for their family members and pets Friday afternoon through late Sunday afternoon.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter makes all hotel and food arrangements on behalf of confirmed couples and priests on the Weekend. All that is needed to secure your spot on a Weekend is a nonrefundable application fee of \$100. This fee is transferrable if you are unable to attend a scheduled weekend due to an emergency. If couples are unable to fund the \$100, M.E. will not turn any couple away as the ME Community will find generous sponsors to pay the fee

To participate in the April 28-30, 2017, Weekend at the Kanoa Resort, email cnmime@gmail.com or call Joe & Linda Muña, Spring Weekend Registration Couple at 287-2102. (PR)

ficulty finding the necessary

capital to finish construction

of Imperial Pacific Resort, the

permanent resort casino that

will supplant IPI's temporary

casino Best Sunshine Live,

which runs out of a high-end

shopping mall on Saipan.

Work on the resort was report-

edly only able to continue after

controlling shareholder Cui

Liije purchased \$100m of

The offices of the perma-

nent casino's main contractor

was raided by the FBI last

week following the death

of a construction worker.

Charges have now been filed

against two individuals after

the authorities discovered at

least 189 Chinese nationals

working on the site using

company bonds in February.

## **HOMELESS**

From Page 1

tion expected only 100 volunteers for the count but got more than enough, according to Sablan.

"The count was overwhelming. We had over a hundred volunteers and this was the result of our networking and our partnership with government agencies and the CNMI CARE group," she said.

CARE is a group formed to assist people rebuild in the wake of Typhoon Soudelor in August 2015.

Volunteers visited the villages they were assigned to to count the homeless and those at-risk of becoming homeless.

"We started at 5am, scoping the beaches and we also separated the hundred plus and we concentrated most of them in villages where you would find the most substandard houses." Sablan said.

Volunteers were required to attend an orientation the day before the count at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The orientation briefed volunteers on how the

surveys are to be conducted and other safety hazards that could potentially happen during the count.

The coalition was started back in December. It received technical assistance from the federal Housing and Urban Development and the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.

The count was initially supposed to start in January but because the coalition was only formed in December, the group was only able to do the actual counting before the deadline, May 1.

According to Sablan, the count focused more on substandard housing, rather than literally the unsheltered homeless

"The homeless, we know where a lot of them are. A lot of our counts today consisted of the substandard housing by HUD's definition."

HUD's definition of substandard housing is simple: "No power, no water, no windows, no doors, no roof, no ceiling. If a person lacks a combination or at least one of those, they can qualify for the count," said Sablan.

An exact number of the CNMI's homeless is a rethe coalition and NMHC are planning to submit this September called the Continuum of Care grant.

quirement for a grant that

"...It is to help in providing more services in terms of housing and stabilizing families, getting them into more standard housing opportunities," Sablan explained.

Sablan deemed the count to be successful, especially since it is the first one that has been done on island and it was organized in such a short amount of time.

"...It was really overwhelming but everyone just came together. Usually it takes months of planning but with everybody's assistance, we pulled through."

The count consisted of three different types of surveys. The first was for the unsheltered homeless. This survey was for families who live in substandard houses and the literal homeless.

The second survey was for the sheltered homeless. This survey is to count the homeless who live in shelters provided by the government.

The last survey is for the homeless who are already

Salvation Army.

done last Saturday at the same time. The Salvation Army will conduct the last survey within the following week.

was one of the volunteers for

out people," Palconit said.

they went house to house and surveyed people who were affected by Typhoon Soudelor. Palconit also mentioned that there were struggles along the way.

had to walk, and dogs."

will join again. "

community.

## MBA

From Page 1

resented the region as well, so it is a good thing for us as we have had prior experience in the competition," he said.

Castro frequents Best Buy to look for books he thinks could be of assistance to

"This is a good opportunity for Jimenez to learn a lot of things. I asked her to read up on almanacs and atlases because the competition is very specific. The competition also touches on historical events and the ecology of areas all over the world," he said.

NGC will be sponsoring the trip for Jimenez and her mother but not Castro. Because of this, Castro wishes to seek the assistance of the Public School System, since Jimenez will be representing all Pacific territories.

"We are hoping that we could go at least a day or two before May 14, which is the last year, when MBA got the

competition day. They sent us a program, so it would be ideal that we arrive in D.C. before then." he said.

"I just need to finish all the paperwork associated with the trip. That is all we are waiting for."

The last time the CNMI was represented in the NGB was back in 2006, when Grace Christian Academy represented the region. Since then, Guam students consecutively represented the Pacific until

partment of Defense depen-

20 10am ChST.

Preservation Act of 1966 is a necessary step needed to be taken for projects that involve adverse impacts on a site or sites directly or indirectly that is eligible for inclusion in the National Reg-

the Taste of the Marianas would be held at the Fishing Base, NPS still expected the festival to be held at the AMP, "right up until we heard otherwise in the newspaper," said Richardson.

have so far approved only one tourist visas that had long junket operator to work with since expired. IPI, leaving the company no The media spotlight on IPI option but to issue credit dihas convinced at least one of rectly to its VIPs. This offers its high-priced advisers that the IPI a larger share of the profits pay isn't worth the controversy. but also leaves the company This week, the Philadelphia holding the bag if VIPs prove Inquirer reported that former unable or unwilling to honor Pennsylvania Gov. Ed Rendell had withdrawn from his IPI exec Mark Brown previ-\$5k/month gig as a member of ously stated that IPI's direct IPI's advisory committee.

Rendell told the Inquirer that he'd rethought his role because Saipan was simply "too far away for me to effectively monitor anything that goes on. I'm taking people's word for it, and that's not a good thing."

As for allegations of financial shenanigans at Best Sunshine Live, Rendell said his IPI contacts "keep insisting there's nothing to it." Those allegations came in a report from the Bloomberg news agency, and IPI announced last week that it planned to "take formal legal actions against [Bloomberg's] repeated unfounded report."

## **NPS**

From Page 1

Taste of the Marianas Festival to be held at its usual spot, in the "hardened area."

According to Richardson, the Marianas Visitors Authority, the government agency in charge of the Taste of the Marianas Festival, had proposed to change the festival's venue just weeks before the festival.

"About two weeks ago MVA leaders for [Taste of the

Marianas] proposed moving the location to the grassy area of the ball field. Their plan included six new power poles to be installed in this soft ground area," said Richardson in the email.

Richardson said it was predicted that the ball field would be damaged by the event, even more so if it rains.

"A significant impact to a new area like this would require National Environmental Policy Act and Section 106 compliance, which would need to be completed several months in advance," he said.

NEPA is a law that requires federal agencies to assess the environmental effects of proposed actions prior to making decisions. Actions covered by NEPA include making decisions on permit applications, adopting federal land management actions, and constructing highways and other publicly owned facilities.

Section 106 review under the U.S. National Historic

with its VIP gamblers. IPI has been having dif-

## 2 alleged leaders of alien workers get more time

**By FERDIE DE LA TORRE** ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com

The two alleged leaders of two groups of Chinese workers, mostly illegal workers at Pacific Imperial's ongoing casino and resort project in Garapan, have asked for more time to look into the U.S. government's motion to detain them pending trial.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona on Friday granted the request of Xiufang Qi and Wencai Guo of Beilida Overseas (CNMI) Ltd. to move the detention hearing to Wednesday at 1:30pm for both Qi and Guo.

Manglona ordered the U.S. Probation Office to submit a report regarding the background of the proposed third-party custodians for the defendants.

Preliminary hearing will be on April 20 at 10:30am.

Attorneys Robert T. Torres and Steven Pixley have been appointed as counsels for Guo and Qi respectively.

If Qi is proven she is not qualified for court-appointed counsel, she will be required to reimburse the court for payment of attorney's fee.

Pixley said that during the interview of Qi by the U.S. Probation Office, the defendant mentioned that she has a family business in China worth 10 million RMB or \$1.5 million.

Pixley said that U.S. Probation needs to verify this information because he is not sure if Oi's statement is accurate.

Assistant U.S. attorney Eric O'Malley appeared as counsel for the U.S. government.

Qi and Guo were stopped from leaving the CNMI at the Francisco C. Ada Saipan International Airport last Wednesday. The two were allegedly bound for China. They were taken to federal court on Friday after the U.S. government moved for their detention pending trial due to being flight risks.

The two were arrested on charges of unlawful employment of aliens and bringing in and harboring certain aliens. Separate complaints containing the same charges were also filed against four others: MCC International project manager Yuqing Zhao, Beilida Overseas president and director Hui Lu, Beilida's Hongwei Ma, and MCC electrician Pei Ruan.

MCC International is the construction contractor for Imperial Pacific. Beilida Overseas is a subcontractor of MCC. The Garapan offices of the two companies were searched by the Federal Bureau of Investigation recently.



2017 KIA SOUL LX retail price \$18,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.4% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$289.56 or \$133.64 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$17,373.60.



## **Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**

**Office of the Executive Director** 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building P.O. Box 501220 CK Saipan, MP 96950-1220 Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131



## **INVITATION FOR BIDS** CUC-IFB-17-007

#### **CUC FACILITY FENCE REPAIRS**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the repair of security fences for multiple Saipan water facilities in need of fence repairs due to damage caused by typhoon

This project is funded by the United Sates Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

CUC requires the Project to be completed in 120 calendar days from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **April 13, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-17-007, CUC Facility Fence Repairs", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on April 28, 2017, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and *Performance bond* must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CMMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **4:00 PM (ChST) on April 17, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer - via email yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the

GARY CAMACHO Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN



## **Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands** Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



## **INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW-17-IFB-013**

## PARKING LOT STRIPING FOR THE COMMONWEALTH **DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BUILDING**

Governor Ralph Dig. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Parking Lot Striping for the Commonwealth Development Authority Building, San Jose**, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after April 03, 2017 at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan, A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNM Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commercinsurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30,3-725 AND 70-30,3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a Mandatory Pre-bid Conference for this project on April 24, 2017, 9:00 a.m. local time at Project Site, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on May 01, 2017 to Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Divi Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification on later than ten (1) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

Ine prospective budder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Enclined Progressiantive (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will be make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be maled or delivered personally or by facsimile machine, if the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of sech addendum in the space provided, it shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW-17-IFB-013". For bidders within the CNM, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill. Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time May 15, 2017. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (r) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid in Notices of Intent to bid microerior of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, May 15, 2017, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@located countries to located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarted by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service or the official government postal service or the official government postal service or the official procurement postal service or the official government postal

10:00 a.m. local time, May 26, 2017. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m. local time, on May 15, 2017.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000,00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable to surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to submission. Checks must be made payable to the CMM Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations §70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Cash
 Us Gov't Securities
 Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
 Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
 irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is Forty Five (45) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be asse at the rate of One Hundred (US\$100,00) for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNIM Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

## Cop pleads guilty to misuse of govt vehicle

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

A police officer has pleaded guilty to a traffic case that charged him with misuse of a government vehicle after he used a car registered to the Department of Public Safety's Boating Safety in going to the Tanapag Cemetery for his personal business.

Police officer Norbert Magofna Pua pleaded guilty on Thursday to operating a government vehicle for a purpose other than official government business.

Office of the Public Auditor

investigators took photos of Pua at the cemetery.

Pua was sentenced to pay a \$250 fine plus \$10 in court

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho gave the 43-year-old Pua until July 24, 2017, to pay the fine and court costs.

According to court records, police officer Norris Kwon issued the traffic citation to Pua at the Tanapag Cemetery on Oct. 26, 2016, at 10:07am.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit served as counsel for Pua. Assistant attorney general Jonathan Wilberscheid appeared for the government.

Last March 15, Corrections Director Gregory Castro was issued a traffic citation for misusing a government vehicle after OPA investigators allegedly caught him using a Department of Corrections vehicle in going to the Marianas Country Club in Marpi, where he played golf.

Castro stated he was doing official business at the Marianas Country Club, where he played golf with his brother. He pointed out that when he was issued the citation, nobody asked him what his purpose was at the golf course.

## Businessman found guilty of 'ice' possession

After less than three hours of deliberations, federal jurors reached Friday a unanimous guilty verdict against Yang Zou, a businessman accused of possessing five grams or more of methamphetamine or "ice."

The 12 jurors found Zou guilty of one count of possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute at least 5 grams on April 15, 2016.

The offense carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in

Zou, a Chinese national, was calm when a court staff read the verdict at 2:50pm. He was seen smiling to some

people as U.S. Marshals led him out. He will be sentenced on July 29.

After the hearing, defense counsel Colin Thompson said the trial went quickly and the jurors worked hard and gave fair considerations. Thompson said they are, however, disappointed with the verdict.

Thompson said he will be meeting with Zou to discuss his post trial rights.

Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe, counsel for the U.S. government, refused to comment, saying they will issue a press release.

Saipan Tribune learned that

Zou has a taxi and tour businesses on Saipan.

Backe called a total of seven witnesses, including Yang Kang Chen, a Chinese national who already pleaded guilty to distribution of a controlled

The court was able to empanel 13 jurors, including an alternate, on Wednesday. After completing calling witnesses on Thursday afternoon, the prosecution rested its case. Thompson did not call any

The jurors started deliberating on Friday morning. (Ferdie de la Torre)

## MP HOLDINGS LLC JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

## **HOTEL MANAGER (SAIPAN COUNTRY CLUB)**

MP Holdings LLC is soon to open the Saipan Country Club Resort Hotel, we are looking for an experienced hotel manager to oversee the daily operations of our hotel, as well as provide strategic direction. You will plan and supervise the activities of a new hotel located on Saipan Country Club Golf course, to ensure the smooth and profitable running of the business. You will be responsible for all aspects of the hotel operations.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Supervise staff at all levels (receptionist, kitchen, staff, maids, office employees) and set clear objectives.
- Manage budgets/expense, analyze and interpret financial information and monitor sales and profits
- Develop and implement effective and efficient marketing strategy, in particular work with local travel agencies and online travel booking companies to maximize marketing awareness with key customer groups and penetration.
- Communicate with customers when appropriate to address any complaints, find solutions to problems or offer information.
- Deal with maintenance issues, and equipment and building and landscaping.
- Establish good working relationship with external parties, suppliers, travel agencies, event organizers.
- Inspect and ensure maintenance of all facilities and ensure compliance with all health and safety requirements and other local government compliance and licensing issues.

#### **REQUIREMENTS**

- Proven experience as a Hotel manager, or relevant role.
- Understanding of all hotel management best practices and relevant laws and guidelines.
- Excellent customer service skills.
- Demonstrate aptitude in decision making and problem solving.
- Reliable and with an ability to multi-task and work well under pressure.
- Degree or proven relevant experience in Hotel/Hospitality management or

#### **PREFERRED**

- U.S. citizens and permanent residents
- Proficiency in Korean and/or Chinese

#### **COMPENSATION**

- Compensation: \$2,000 per month plus an incentive bonus, which will be negotiable based on qualifications and experience
- Benefits: Worker's compensation insurance

Email resume to gusnoble@hotmail.com

## **INTERVIEW WITH A TOURIST**

## 'Yes, Europeans will love Saipan!'

By WALT F.J. GOODRIDGE

"European tourists who wander far from home are usually interested in culture and history to some extent to add a little education to their escape and relaxation. The combination of activities as well as significant history on Saipan, Tinian and Rota will surely be a treat for European travelers!"— Hasse Wiersna

Hasse "Chris" Wiersna is a globe-trekker from The Netherlands. On a recent business trip to Singapore, he decided to do some island hopping, with a side trip to Saipan, Tinian, Rota, Yap, Guam, and Palau. I had the pleasure of giving him a World War II pilgrimage tour of Saipan and Tinian over the course of two days.

Chris is the quintessential "passionpreneur" and "nomadpreneur." While others only dream of turning their travel passion into an income strategy, Chris is actually doing it. Since graduating from the University of Twente in The Netherlands with a degree in Chemical Engineering, a minor in Entrepreneurship and



Battle of Saipan relic hunter Fabian Indalecio, bleisure travelpreneur Hasse "Chris" Wiersna from The Netherlands, and passionpreneur author/guide Walt Goodridge on Saipan. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

one in IT, he's never worked his love of world travel—into for anyone—and, instead has been able to parlay some of that formal training into creating his own passion-centered lifestyle!

He's combined two distinct passions—that of coins and a mutually-sustaining business model where the income and travel requirements of one passion finance and facilitate the other! His IT and entrepreneurial training have helped him create and grow a popular

and high-ranked business and leisure travelblog (www.christravelblog.com). He writes about his travels, teaches others how to follow in his footsteps, wakes and jetstreams, and has amassed a global following of free independent travelers, culture and history buffs, and even "stay-cation" homebodies who enjoy his adventures vicariously.

«Since I was young I always wanted to travel the world and beyond,» he said. "My ultimate goal is to visit all continents, countries and UNESCO sites and finally go to space one day!" He's well on his way. Last year he spent about 200 days out on what he called "bleisure" (business and leisure) travel, has seen over 60 countries and plans to explore at least five new ones each year.

To make it happen, Chris does all the travel planning himself. Through a combination of loyalty programs (frequent flier miles, hotel points, etc.) as well as in-kind sponsorship arrangements with destination tourism boards, airlines, hotels, car rental companies, tour guides and activity vendors, he reciprocates with valuable links on his popular site as well as mentions in his articles. The coverage drives business to his sponsors, and offers tourism-boosting attention to various destinations like the CNMI.

Speaking of the CNMI, what did you like most about Tinian?

See EUROPEANS on Next Page

# **Government Employees & Retirees!**

#### The Island Smiles Dental Plan now available via your allotment

- Low Cost: \$5.00 (Individual Plan) \$6.00 (Two-Party Plan) or \$7.00 (Family Plan per allotment.) Least expensive dental plan in the CNMI
- Members receive at LEAST 20%-50% discounts on all dental
- **Plan Provider:** Paradise Dental Center. State- of- the- art, full service General & Cosmetic dental clinic. Newest dental clinic & most experienced dentist in the CNMI



Award-winning dentist Kind and Gentle Dr. Nelson Krum

## Paradise Dental Center



Hawaii Dental Service, TakeCare & Staywell Insurances also accepted. Medicaid patients welcome!

Call 234-4040 Middle Road, Gualo Rai

Stop by and pick up your enrollment packet or send an email request to paradisedentalsaipan@gmail.com



## At Honda We Care About YOUR SAFETY



## ATTENTION HONDA DRIVERS:

Please be aware that we have a recall under way to repair airbag inflators, at no cost to you, in certain Honda vehicles.

If you have a Honda vehicle that is within the year range listed below, please contact us to see if your vehicle needs immediate attention. Thank you from the Honda Family.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

**JOETEN MOTOR COMPANY** P.O. Box 500680, Saipan MP 96950

(670) 234-5562-68

cdyamagishi@joetenmotors.com ana\_s@joetenmotors.com

www.joetenmotors.com

## **HOURS OF OPERATION**

MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM **SATURDAY** 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

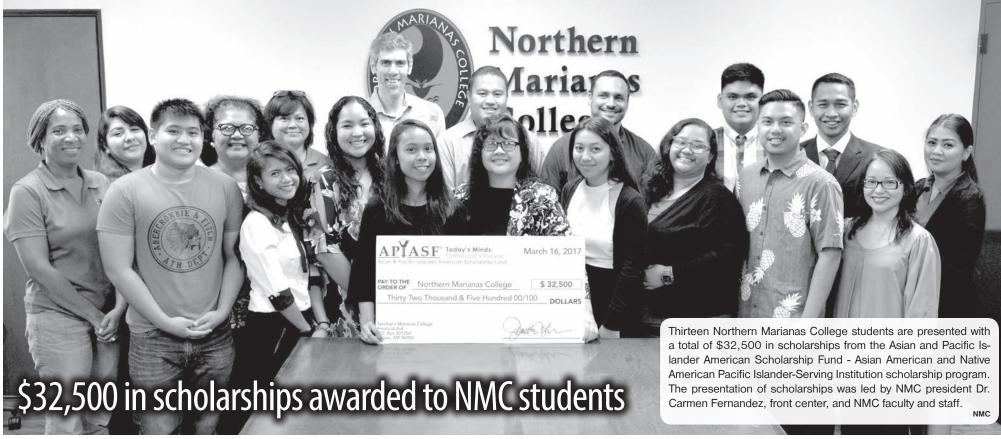


Airbag deployment with inflator rupture\*

\*Metal fragments could pass through the airbag cushion, possibly causing injury or fatality to vehicle occupants.

**CERTAIN AFFECTED MODELS** 001-2015





Thirteen Northern Marianas College students have been awarded Asian and Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund scholarships totaling \$32,500.

The scholarship is a collaboration between the APIASF and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution.

"We are extremely thankful

to APIASF for making these scholarships available for our students," said NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez. "They go a long way to ensure that the recipients are provided with the resources they need to reach their educational goals."

The recipients of the scholarships are Maria Christine Castro, Kathleen Ann Laurio, Lorielyn Monica Lacay, Gemma Noelani Somol, Roman Franklin Tudela, Renee Ann Manibusan, Oliver Lumbad, Dionne Jasmine Deleon Guerrero, Narleen Siech. Rita Lifoifo. Marc Christian Venus, Dominick Jesse Magofna, and Adelpha Lynn Kapileo

Each student received \$2,500 that can be used for tuition, fees, housing, transportation, books, and allowable expenses for the spring 2017 semester.

"We want to congratulate all these students on having been selected from...hundreds of applicants," Fernandez said.

According to APIASF's website, applicants for the scholarship must be full-time students in a degree-seeking program and be of Asian and/or Pacific Islander ethnicity. Applicants must also be citizens, nationals, or legal permanent residents of the United States.

The organization's website also states that the Coca-Cola Foundation, Walt Disney Co., USA Funds, WalMart Foundation, and Wells-Fargo

support the APIASF AANA-PISI Scholarship Program.

"Our vision is to see that all Asian American and Pacific Islanders have access to higher education and resources that cultivate their academic, personal and professional success regardless of their ethnicity, national origin or financial means," APIASF's mission states. (NMC)

## **EUROPEANS**

From Page 7

"Well, Tinian was very fascinating. This island's story is history that changed the world. It's a tiny island but of so great importance in world history. Seeing the bomb pits and standing on the actual runway the Enola Gay took off from was awe-inspiring."

#### ...and Saipan?

"Saipan is a mix between a resort-style holiday, but with a lot to offer history-wise. It's a great combination for those who don't want to be on the beach all day. Activities like fishing on the ocean, watersports and more make Saipan a great choice for any family. Also, based on the advanced

research I did on Saipan, I knew I couldn't visit without documenting its World War II significance. So, getting to see that amazing collection of Chamorro, Japanese and Battle of Saipan relics that Fabian [Indalecio] has in his private collection was very special! Thanks for that!"

#### ...and Rota?

Rota is totally different

from Tinian and Saipan. I do suggest going there for several reasons which are the extensive latte stones; some WWII relics but also the nature with its birds. The best, however, is how relaxed the island is with its deserted beaches where you can sit all day without anyone disturbing you. I tend to do too much on a day and on Rota at some point I only could sit on the beach, just do nothing, which was a good thing!

Chris is heading back to spend Easter with his wife and two children in The Netherlands, and then will hit the road and skies again to Taiwan and beyond! Let's all hope that his Saipan, Tinian and Rota adventures will inspire others to discover Saipan, too! (Special thanks to Star Marianas, Islander Car Rental, and Saipan's "Relic Hunter" Fabian Indalecio for making Chris' CNMI adventure possible and memorable!)

Chris' articles on Saipan, Tinian and Rota will appear on his www.christravelblog. com site over the coming weeks.



## Northern Marianas College

P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 Phone: (670) 237-6858/6855 • Fax: (670) 235-3696 Website: http://www.marianas.edu

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcement No. 17-021 Position Title:

Department Pay Level & Step Annual Salary

Opening Date: April 03, 2017

Re-Announcement No. 17-018 Position Title:

Pay Level & Step: Annual Salary: Opening Date: April 03, 2017

Announcement No. 17-022

Position Title: Department Pay Level & Step: Annual Salary:

Location: Opening Date: April 03, 2017

Announcement No. 16-028 Position Title-

Opening Date: April 03, 2017

Department Pay Level & Step: Annual Salary: Location:

Dean of Administration & Resource Development

Administration & Resource Development Executive Grade 02/Step 01-02 \$60.000 - \$62.100 As Terlaje Campus, Saipan Closing Date: April 12, 2017 or Until Filled

Clerk III (Database) Office of Admissions & Records

04/Step 01-02 \$18,260.11 - \$18,899.21 As Terlaje Campus, Saipar Closing Date: April 12, 2017 or Until Filled

Research Assistant I

CREES \$15,607.80

As Terlaje Campus, Sainan Closing Date: April 12, 2017 or Until Filled

Instructor, Business (Computer Applications) Business

32/Steps 01-02 \$41,527.83 - \$42,981.30 As Terlaje Campus, Saipan Closing Date: April 12, 2017 or Until Filled

Applications must be submitted by 4:30 pm on the closing date. If there are no qualified applicants or the set Applications must be submitted by 4-x-by mind much enough guarter. In there are no quantized applicants is deemed an insufficient pool, the closing date will be extended for two-week periods for further submission and review of applications until the search is closed. Deadlines that fall on a non-business day will be extended to the next business day. All salaries are subject to availability of funds. The



## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

It is the policy of the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) to limit hiring to qualified US workers, as restricted by CNMI law, and that equal opportunity be given to all qualified US worker applicants regardless of age, sex or sexual orientation, religion, marital status, political status, veterans status, disability or place of origin.

Opening Date: 03/31/17 Closing Date: 04/13/17\*

JVA#17-006: Annual Salary: Location:

Special Assistant to the Managing Director \$25,000.00 to \$35,000.00\*\* UNGRADED Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

JVA#17-008: Annual Salary: Location:

Statistics Specialist L \$23,394.03 to \$24,563.73 Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

JVA#17-009: Annual Salary: Location:

Chief Accountant \$45,000.00 - \$60,000.00 \*\* UNGRADED Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

\*\* The salary given will be determined by the qualifications of the

\*If not filled, the vacancy announcement will be continued and applications will be reviewed every two weeks thereafter until the search is closed. Deadlines that fall on a non-business day will be extended to the next business day.

Interested persons may contact the Marianas Visitors Authority Office at (670) 664-3200/01 for more detailed information on position description. A completed application must be submitted together with the required documents for consideration until search is closed. A resume may be attached, but the application form must be filled out in full. MVA is an equal opportunity employer.



#### **COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY CNMI GOVERNMENT**

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962 E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

## **INVITATION TO BID** PROJECT NO.: CPA-IFB-007-17

**SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 10, 2017** 

"PROCUREMENT & DELIVERY OF ONE UNIT VEHICLE: 2017 ACCESS CAB P/U TRUCK, 4-CYLINDER 4WHEEL DRIVE, AUTOMATIC TRANS, AIR-CONDITIONING, POWER WINDOWS/DOORS, WHITE COLOR, ALL OTHER FEATURES AS PER FACTORY SPECIFICATIONS AND TO INCLUDE INSTALLATION OF A NEW BED-FITTED ALUMINUM TOOL BOX

DELIVERY OF ONE UNIT VEHICLE TO SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SHALL BE 90 DAYS OR SOONER AFTER BID AWARD. QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROCUREMENT SHALL BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING VIA EMAIL AT <u>atudela@cpa.gov.mp</u> (Alex Tudela/Procurement Officer) PRIOR TO MARCH 31, 2017.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE ORIGINAL BID AND 2 COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED: "IFB FOR PROCUREMENT & DELIVERY OF ONE UNIT VEHICLE FOR CPA SAIPAN". BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION \$40-50-1020 AND \$40-50-1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

**CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO** 

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## Leepan wants harsher penalties for vandals

Rep. Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero (R-Saipan) wants stiffer penalties and fines for people who are caught defacing or vandalizing public property in the CNMI like parks and tourist sites or even those owned by private individuals.

Guerrero believes his plan would arouse some opposition but he pointed out that the local government spends money to beautify and renovate public places in the CNMI, especially tourist sites.

there's no criminal element in defacing public property. But what happened if that was your own building? How would you feel about it? I don't think you'll be comfortable with what happened," said Guerrero.

"Why can't we have public places here...in the CNMI that people could enjoy without being vandalized? It's probably kids who are doing those things."

Educating the youth could be one step to curb the prac-"People may think that tice. "In any community, you

have people who would vandalize public properties. It is a part of every community everywhere you go, but we just need to educate people. We need to inform everyone.'

"The [Marianas Visitors Authority] should be tasked with publicly educating people. Or maybe we need to identify what agency would lead the project and find a funding source for them. We must put out a public information campaign that would say these are the consequences that you're going to meet if you deface or vandalize a property."

And if all others fail, Guerrero plans to revisit some CNMI laws to increase the penalties and probably impose prison time.

'To rigorously make it more harsher. Instead of misdemeanor, why don't we consider it a felony? If that's the only option to curb defacing public property, then obviously we should start somewhere," said Guerrero.

The law allows the Division

of Parks and Recreation to impose a fine of up to \$500 on anyone who engages in any prohibited activity in Commonwealth parks, recreation areas, or tourist sites. The list of violations include vandalism, graffiti, littering, destruction of structures or monuments, building fires outside of designated fireplaces, and destruction of other park prop-

Public Law 14-27 established park rangers under the Division of Parks and Recreation and designated the Department of Lands and Natural Resources as the administering authority for tourist sites that were formerly managed

erties, including plants.

and maintained by MVA.

Guerrero said it can also be done in tiers—a first offense could merit a stiff fine and probably the offender would be requested to write a letter that would be published apologizing for defacing a property.

Strike two, on Guerrero's suggestion, is increasing the fine, a suspended sentence, and being placed on probation. A third time would mean a large fine and probably imprisonment.

"Maybe three months in jail would [motivate] you not to do it again. If you don't want to serve time, then don't do the crime," said Guerrero. (Jon Perez)

## Yamamoto: Hocog should not get another bite at the apple

Citing a violation of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Japanese investor Takahisa Yamamoto has moved to immediately dismiss Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog's renewed motion to dismiss his (Yamamoto) lawsuit against him and owners of cargo ship M/V Luta.

Yamamoto, through George Lloyd Hasselback, noted that Hocog previously moved for the dismissal of the lawsuit under Rule 12(b) and that motion was denied last March 8.

Hocog has moved again for dismissal under the same rule without any explanation, Hasselback said, and should be denied again without further consideration.

Asserting that he was immune from lawsuit as his then-actions were taken in the course of the legislative process when he was a senator, Hocog filed again last March 22 a motion to dismiss Yamamoto's court action.

Hocog, through counsel F. Randall Cunliffe, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to dismiss Yamamoto's complaint against him for failure to comply with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

Cunliffe said Yamamoto alleges that Hocog's position as a then-senator would benefit Yamamoto; that Hocog stated that the Municipality of Rota would help fund the operation; and that Hocog claimed he would use his political position to ensure that Yamamoto's investment was returned with a profit.

Citing previous court rulings, Cunliffe said legislation immunity extends beyond just speech and debate; it has been interpreted to extend to actions taken by legislatures in the course of the legislative process.

Last March 8, the U.S. District Court for the NMI denied Hocog's motion to dismiss Yamamoto's amended lawsuit.

Designated judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood ruled that because the in personam claims against Hocog and do not have to be verified, she denies the motion to dismiss Yamamoto's amended complaint.

Last Dec. 1, Yamamoto filed a complaint that Hocog, who as then-Rota senator, allegedly promised to use his political position and influence to ensure that his (Yamamoto) investment in the M/V *Luta* was returned with profit.

Besides Hocog, Yamamo-

to's complaint named M/V Luta owners Luta Mermaid LLC, Abelina T. Mendiola, Deron T. Mendiola, Fidel S. Mendiola III, and Fidel Mendiola Jr. as defendants. He sued them for breach of contract, fraud, and unjust enrichment.

Yamamoto is suing Hocog and the ship's owners for allegedly refusing to pay back the \$3.4 million that he put up for the vessel. (Ferdie de la Torre)







10 MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# **Opinion**



Published daily at 2/F JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

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MEMBER

**Ap** The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## **EDITORIAL**

# What comes next in Syria?

ven when President Trump appears to have done the right thing it can leave you scratching your head. The unexpected cruise missile attack on a Syrian air base in response to the despicable President Bashar al-Assad's use of chemical weapons against his own people was measured and appropriate. In fact, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton earlier recommended the same tactic to keep Assad's air force from getting off the ground to wage chemical warfare on innocents. But few expected Trump to take that course.

This is the "America First" president, who campaigned on a pledge to not get overly involved in foreign disputes. Yet by taking military action against the Assad regime he may have opened the door to greater U.S. intervention in a civil war in which Russia, which Trump has been accused of being too cozy, is decidedly on the other side. Moscow was quick to denounce the missile strikes launched from two U.S. destroyers in the eastern Mediterranean Sea.

The strikes came after the Pentagon provided evidence that a chemical attack Tuesday on the rebel-held town of Khan Sheikhoun in Idlib Province was carried out by Syrian aircraft that flew from the Shayrat air base. Video and photographs of the aftermath showed dozens of victims, including small children, some dead, others convulsing, coughing up blood, or foaming at the mouth as they gasped for enough breath to stay alive. Either the nerve agent sarin or chlorine gas is believed to have been used to commit the atrocity.

In announcing the missile strikes Thursday night, Trump said: "It is in this vital national security interest of the United States to prevent and deter the spread and use of deadly chemical weapons." He said years of previous attempts to change Assad's behavior had all failed, leading to continuation of the Syrian civil war and a subsequent refugee crisis that in destabilizing the region threatens the United States and its allies.

So, what comes next? Trump has been fighting accusations that his election campaign may have colluded with the Russians to help him win the presidency. But his attack on the Syrian air base is in a sense a rebuke of Russia, which was supposed to have worked out a deal with Assad in 2013 to destroy his chemical weapons arsenal. A Pentagon spokesman says Russian forces in Syria were warned of the imminent missile strikes on the airfield so they could get out of harm's way.

Sens. John McCain (R.-Ariz.) and Lindsey Graham (R.-S.C.) said Trump should take additional military steps to cripple Assad's air force. But Trump may not be willing to go that far. After all, early last week he seemed visibly unmoved by images of the Khan Sheikhoun victims. Trump must consider the Russian response to any U.S. escalation. Next week's scheduled meeting between Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and Russian President Putin should provide some indication of that.

More importantly, Trump must consider the response of the American public.

A wave of sympathy for the gassed victims of the murderous Assad will dissipate like the wind if Americans feel this country is being drawn into another long, indecipherable war in the Mideast where it's difficult to tell who is friend or foe.

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## Syria's horror

mages of the human horror in Syria filled the world's news screens this week: Infants, children, teens, adults, some strong, some weak, all helpless and hopeless. Mouths gasping for air and oozing foam, eyes staring but not seeing. The dying lay alongside the already dead.

All were innocent victims of deadly chemical weapons that Russia's Vladimir Putin and his despotic client, Syrian President Bashar Assad, had assured the world no longer existed.

Now the world has seen with its own eyes why, even though Assad may have ordered the crime, Putin must bear the ultimate blame. And maybe the most conscientious world leaders, who once again found it inconvenient to intervene and easy to just accept the assurances of the untrustworthy, will know that they too must share the ultimate shame. Once again, the world watched but did not act.

Perhaps now the Russian people will finally see why the world blames Russia for enabling the horror in Syria and elsewhere. And perhaps Russians will finally figure out that although Putin's militarism and swagger makes them feel strong and makes others fearful, fear is a weak substitute for the real strength that comes from genuine prosperity, which they not long ago came close to achieving.

But maybe not. Perhaps Russia's citizens have forgotten—or never even knew!—that just three years ago, Putin came close to convincing world leaders Russia could be a trusted partner in the global economy. But Putin's chance to bring prosperity to his people was shattered when his inner KGB nerve-stem erupted in rage.

The re-emergence of Putin's inner KGB was masterfully explained last month by respected CNN international affairs analyst Fareed Zakaria in his documentary, "The Most Powerful Man in the World." It began by reporting on the trauma and shame Putin felt in 1989 as a 37-year-old KGB agent in East Germany when the Berlin Wall fell. And how Putin has relied on military power to make sure Russia never suffered that sort of embarrassment again.

But I believe there was a crucial gap in CNN's otherwise comprehensive documentary. It overlooked the almost-success of a non-military plan Putin never announced but definitely implemented.

I've previously called it the Sochi Two-Step. One: Putin would convince the world to hold its 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi. Two: Putin would then convince the G8 world economic leaders to hold their June 2014 summit in Sochi, where he would deploy round two of his charm offensive.

It was way back in 2010 that Putin set out to make it happen.

## By MARTIN SCHRAM

Tribune News Service

Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive. Readers may send him email at martin.schram@gmail.com.



That's when he went to the Olympic Committee's meeting in Guatemala City and launched a charm offensive. He brazenly built an ice rink in that tropical locale and worked with the skill of a Chicago alderman to impress each committee member. Sochi won in a close vote. A Russian official called it "one of the most important days in Russian history."

The 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi was a huge success for Russia—and Putin's grand plan seemed on the verge of delivering for the Russian people. But when Putin saw Ukraine, once a Soviet family jewel, seeking closer ties with NATO and Europe, his inner KGB resurfaced. Putin snatched Crimea from Ukraine in March and boosted his military backing of Ukraine rebels. A stunned G8 retaliated by cancelling its June summit in Sochi and held a G7 (minus Russia) in Germany instead. The West slapped Russia with new sanctions.

Putin abandoned all pretense of being a global good neighbor and aligned himself with the world's worst. He militarily propped up Syria's mass murdering Assad; Syrian or Russian jets repeatedly bombed hospitals. And across the pond, Putin ordered a neo-Watergate cyber-stealing and leaking of Democratic Party emails to help Donald Trump get elected.

Russians seemed charmed by Putin's strongman ways. His polls percentages soared into the 80s. And the Moscow Times reported a 2014 poll showing an astounding 45 percent of Russians felt the sacrifices of the Stalin era were justified (up from only 25 percent two years earlier). And 39 percent actually expressed "admiration," "kind regards," or "sympathy" for Stalin.

But Russians may soon wise up and realize they can't deposit Putin's swagger in their bank accounts. Once again, Putin is seeing antigovernment protests in the streets. And a terrorist's subway bomb in St. Petersburg just killed 11.

Any day now, Russians may figure out their tough-guy president has failed to deliver the prosperity that, back in the days of Putin's kinder, gentler Sochi Two-Step, seemed to be just a step away.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## A few thoughts on the SOCA

The governor's State of the Commonwealth address failed to adequately give the people of the Commonwealth a realistic assessment of the true state that the Commonwealth is in. The speech was too long, too superficial, too general, and at times self-congratulatory. Indeed, after you have finished reading the governor's remarks, you find yourself asking the question: What really is the state or condition that the Commonwealth is in?

Are the people of the Commonwealth better off today than they were two to four years ago? Are the people of the Commonwealth today receiving the essential public services that they need, in such basic areas as education, public health, public safety, the environment, employment of local residents, and so forth? Or is the Commonwealth still "treading water" as it has been doing for several years now? What concrete economic plan or improvements have our government leaders undertaken during the past two to four years, aside from the exclusive casino license that was awarded to Best Sunshine?

In order to have a realistic picture of the true state of the Commonwealth, the governor has to provide the people with specific facts and figures to back up his general statement that the Commonwealth is indeed improving under his administration, both economically and in terms of the quality of life of its residents. While it is true that the tax revenue that was generated during the past fiscal year has increased from the years when we were experiencing economic recession, we are not "out of the woods" yet.

Indeed, the real danger facing the Commonwealth this day was the decision of our leaders two to three years ago to put all of our eggs in one basket. Our leaders took a huge gamble and decided to place our entire fate and fortune on an untested casino industry that was exclusively licensed to a single operator. If for any reason (which I hope and pray would not happen) the exclusive casino licensee encounters any major setback with its

business operations, the economic fate of the Commonwealth would similarly suffer the same major setback.

Whenever we talk about the present state of affairs or the general condition of any jurisdiction including the Commonwealth, the first thing that usually comes to mind is the quality of life of its residents. Then we ask: how is its economy? Is it a healthy place to live in? Is it a safe community? Does it have good schools? Is it a nice place? Does it have a clean environment? These are some of the basic questions by which a place is assessed.

For the Commonwealth, therefore, the pertinent question to ask is: where are we now insofar as our political, economic and social development is concerned? Are we really improving, or are we barely making ends meet? If we are improving, then why do we still see so many of our people getting sick from complications with diabetes, heart disease, obesity, and so forth. It is my opinion that in the area of public health the state of the Commonwealth is still sub-standard, not unlike the substandard public health conditions that we see in developing countries. Indeed, public health service has actually turned for the worse after the Commonwealth Health Center was made a government corporation (without a governing board) several years ago.

With respect to public safety, we continue to see an increase in the number of crimes being committed in the Commonwealth every year. These include crimes of assault and battery, domestic abuse, burglary and robbery, homicides, the upward spike in drug-related crimes and addiction, and so forth. Such increase in crime in our community is testing the limited resources of our criminal justice system, particularly the increase in drug abuse cases.

Thus the critical question that must be addressed by the governor and our policymakers is whether the Commonwealth has improved in the area of public safety. And the answer to this is clearly "No." As an example, so many of

our residents for several years now are afraid of leaving their homes, even during the day, for fear that their residence might be burglarized. It would be enlightening for the governor to provide the people with figures and statistics on the subject of crime in the Commonwealth and inform us of the concrete plans he has to effectively fight such addictive drugs as crystal meth.

Next, is the Commonwealth improving in the area of public education? Again, we need facts and figures to show the progress we have made over the past several years in the area of education. Could we know, for example, how many of our students graduate each year from high school? How many of these graduates go on to college? How many are hired locally (by the private sector and by the government) after high school? How many of them remain unemployed due to lack of skill or interest? And are we making a strong effort to have these individuals gainfully employed?

The oft-quoted statement that "our most valuable resource is our people" rings hollow when we still see so many of our residents remain unemployed, yet we continue to ask the federal government, year after year, to increase the cap on nonresident workers. Why? Have we exhausted the supply of local workers?

I could go on and on into other areas of concern to the people of the Commonwealth, such as the environment and our natural resources, but I believe that the foregoing discussion will hopefully encourage a serious dialogue among our government and business leaders so that the future of this Commonwealth and its people will indeed be positive and beneficial to all. For starters, a concrete plan of action (in writing and adopted by our leaders after serious deliberation) with respect to each area of public service appears to be in order.

Jose S. Dela Cruz Koblerville, Saipan

## 'American dream'? What is that?

Mr. Ambrose Bennett's rendition of the American dream following what the default governor of this government said in the SOCA made it imperative to question what this is all about.

If we can find what "American dream" means, we all can grasp the concept that represents this ideology or parable as it may suggests. The preamble of the U.S. Constitution does express a point about life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as principles of our democracy. Yet it left much room for interpretation on what our government means. Then there exists some elusive egalitarian connotations that confuses more than necessary the specificity that rises to full understanding what "American dream" is in the mind and heart of Ambrose. Yet in the SOCA and brief mention by the governor, this American dream concept is indeterminate and carries with it

so much loose thoughts, resting on irrational connections and unfounded beliefs.

Karl Marx and followers of egalitarian thought are not necessarily a distant cousin of equality as envisioned by patrons of democracy. Hence, it is important to verify whether Mr. Ambrose Bennett knows what he is saying about the American dream if there is such that we can all buy-in and live a life in comfort and solidarity. By the same token, one wonders whether the governor himself knows what the American dream is. If it exists, then what is that? Otherwise, the SOCA's message about what the "American dream" is is an irrational conclusion.

What is the "American dream" and when is a dream un-American? Alternatively, what dream is American? Is there a 10 percent or 90 percent American standard? What are you talking about Ambrose? That this governor is sitting in the Governor Office by default, does he represent the American dream of the people that did not elect him into office? Is this American dream the indigenous people of these islands should love and live as their democracy in government? Unless Ambrose Bennett can explain what he is talking about and what the default governor's mindset about the "American dream," their thoughts on the subject are nothing more than irrational understanding. The only conclusion that matters is that the concept about the American dream is only a rhetorical reference that missed its intended meaning. It's like defecating but ended up as a fart.

Francisco R. Agulto Kannat Tabla, Saipan

## LITERARY-NOOK

## A haiku calendar for April

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY

SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

#### **April Come She Will With Pollen**

poetry month and April Fool's thirty days to read write and rhyme at home at work and in our schools just need to find a little more time now we've passed the foolish first April come she will with pollen to hear fresh poems a schoolish thirst with runny nose and eyes all swollen in the street sweet chirping is heard trees spread pollen through the city sympathetic song comes from a bird allergy problems get sneezing pity warm winds blew a new moon last night and darkness made the stars so bright

## **Spring Shout**

trumpet fanfare warm wind in the air skunk cabbage starts to sprout hills blurry with maple buds icicles drop with thuds as spring gives a shout overflowing creeks muddy for weeks footprints fill a mud puddle groundhogs slide along the bank trout season opens and reels crank as around a campfire we huddle big garden plans and wet muddy hands from new varieties worth trying deer eat rhododendron buds sparrows peck at worms and grubs while we eat fresh dandelion

Here is an ABCDarian haiku calendar for April:

- 1 April adolescence/fools rush in/teenage years
- April birthday/to be or not to be/Shakespeare baptized (23rd)
- 3 April come she will/for Easter/a new yellow raincoat
- 4 April dews and don'ts/thunder lightening and rain/threaten-
- 5 April eggs/hardboiled in a basket/chocolate foiled
- 6 April fools/forget what they're like/in May and June
- 7 April gala/'Singing In the Rain'/goofing on 'a stairs'
- 8 April high jinx/fooling around/in a mud puddle
- 9 April injustice/pouring rain/on her sixth birthday
- 10 April joker/cracks/a grin
- 11 April kick off/soccer balls/hit foolish heads
- 12 "April Love"/Pat Boone/croons
- 13 April moon/fools in love/underneath
- 14 April noon/high calorie buffet/back for a fourth plate
- 15 April on again/off again rain showers/can't decide

- 16 April planting/peanuts and potatoes/both buttered and mashed
- 17 April quilt/frost mud slush and gush/city square's a mess
- 18 April rush/daffodils/visible
- 19 April stars forecast/Oscars out tonight/dim tomorrow
- 20 April torrent/all at once/gone in a flash
- 21 April umbrellas/tool of the month/sold out
- April violets/my mother's favorites/by mossy stones
- 23 April weather/May around the corner/thank goodness
- 24 April X rated/railroad crossing light/on for days
- April yellow lights/sign of things to come/use cautionApril zinnias/unheard of/way too early
- 27 \*April en Paris/La Mome Piaf s'il yous
- 27 \*April *en Paris/La Mome Piaf s'il vous plait/avec plaisir* 28 April in Perth/fall for all its worth/down under
- 29 April prognostication/Portland, ME to Portland, OR/rain
- April prognostication/Portland, ME to Portland, OR/rain
- 30 April in Brooklyn/schlepping in the rain/making groceries

\* #27 is in French. It translates as, "April in Paris /the Little Sparrow if you please/with pleasure". The Little Sparrow is a nickname for a famous French singer named Edith Piaf (1915-1963). She sang all kinds of pop love songs happy and sad. The poem is about a beautiful time in the city of Paris, France. April in Paris is a famous pop song. Flowers are blooming and love is in the air. A person is buying a ticket to hear Edith Piaf sing or a record by her. The seller says it is a pleasure for him to sell the Edith Piaf concert ticket or a recording by her. She was and still is a much-loved chanteuse by French people and music lovers around the world.

**12** MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

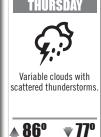
## The Weather

### 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN



Scattered thunderstorms in the morning. Partly cloudy skies late. **85° ₹78°** 





Scattered thunderstorms in the evening. Partly cloudy skies overnight **▼77**° **▲ 85°** 

#### YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE

**▲** 86°

**▼78**°



## PICTURE TIME: 7:37 AM, SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2017

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Updated winds with new GFS model data. Quiet weather pattern will persist across the Marianas through at least Tuesday. Expect only partly cloudy skies, isolated showers and east winds of 10 to 20 mph during that period. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are still in the forecast for Tuesday night through Thursday. GFS is trending towards the idea of the bulk of the showers and thunderstorms occurring mainly over Guam and maybe Rota. ECMWF still keeps the Marianas dry. NAVGEM shows showers over the local area mainly on Wednesday and Wednesday night. CMC has backed off and keeps showers south of the Marianas.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA	A	<b>▲</b> ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	88   78 °F
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	85   77 °F
Yap	Thunderstorms	86   72 °F
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	84   80 °F
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86   79 °F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86   79 °F
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85   80 °F

Majuro	Thunderstorms	85   80 °F
		_
AROUND TH	E GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	70   65 °F
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	70   49 °F
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	80   75 °F
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	85   71 °F
London	Cloudy	58   40 °F
Los Angeles	Sunny	74   54 °F
Manila	Partly Cloudy	94   78 °F
Melbourne	Cloudy	80   56 °F
Miami	Partly Cloudy	79   70 °F
New York	Partly Cloudy	64   55 °F
Osaka	Overcast	68   63 °F
Paris	Sunny	57   39 °F
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	64   44 °F
Rome	Sunny	68   50 °F
Salem	Partly Cloudy	55   37 °F
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	63   49 °F
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	67   46 °F
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	58   46 °F
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	81   56 °F



Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

■ Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone ■\*11 on any IT&E cellular phone

Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

- 7- 5	1 3- 73 7	
TIDES: SAIP	AN HARBOR TO	DAY FEET
1:13 AM	LOW TIDE	0.32
7:15 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.91
1:44 PM	LOW TIDE	0.37
7:34 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.83

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:06 AM	6:30 PM
Tuesday	6:05 AM	6:30 PM
Wednesday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Thursday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Friday	6:03 AM	6:31 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	5:22 AM	5:45 PM
Tuesday	-	6:01 AM	6:34 PM
Wednesday	-	6:41 AM	7:22 PM
Thursday	-	7:21 AM	8:11 PM
Friday	-	8:03 AM	8:59 PM

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 25, 2017

			AILIG	NEO .				
	SAIPAN-G	UAM (GI	JM)		GUAM (C	GUM)-SAIF	PAN	
	UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
	UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
	UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
	UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
	UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
	UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
1					1			

#### SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391 1:30pm 2:05pm 1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM

UA6391 2:35pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) 4:15pm 7:05pm Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) TW308 2:35am 6:25am OZ626 2:10am 6:00am OZ626 2:50am 6:40am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 7C3403 4:35am 8:30am Daily LJ652 3:10pm 7:05pm Daily 7C3401 4:30pm 8:25pm Daily

4:25pm 8:35pm

**SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)** 7C3451 2:55am 6:10am 1, 7 OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 4, 7 4, 5 7C3451 3:15am 6:30am

Daily

3, 7

1, 4, 5, 7

2 via GUM-ROR

3, 6 via GUM

7C3433 3:55am 7:30am

SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)

ZE582

3U8648

UA6390/193

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

5:20am 8:00am

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764 1:30am 6:50am 3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646 4:30am 7:50am

**SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)** OZ626/701 2:10am 10:50am 1 via ICN OZ626/701 2:50am 10:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA6394/191 4:15am 9:00am 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM UA6394/PR111 4:15am 9:30am Daily via GUM UA6391/183 1:30pm 9:30pm 5 via Rota-GUM UA6391/183 1:30pm 9:50pm 1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM UA6391/193 5 via Rota-GUM-ROR 1:30pm 11:10pm UA6390/183 2:20pm 9:30pm 2 via GUM 3, 6 via GUM UA6390/183 2:20pm 9:50pm

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) UO43 4:40am 8:10am 1, 3, 4, 6 HX077 2:15am 5:15am 1, 4 1 via ICN OZ626/721 2:10am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN OZ626/721 2:50am 11:50am 1, 5 via Rota-GUM 1:30pm 10:35pm UA6391/159 UA6390/159

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**GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)** 

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390

UA6390 1:15pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6

12:10pm 12:45pm

2, 3, 6

6.7

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

10:25am 2:55pm Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN LJ651 8:25am 1:45pm 10:15am 3:35pm ZE581 Daily 7C3402 10:10am 3:30pm Daily OZ625 7:40pm 1:00am+1 TW307 8:15pm 1:35am+1 Daily OZ625 8:20pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 7C3404 10:10pm 3:30am+1 Daily

**BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN** 7C3452 8:30pm 1:20am+1

OZ607 9:00pm 1:50am+1 3, 6 7C3452 9:35pm 2:15am+1 3, 4

7C3434 10:05pm 2:40am+1 2, 6

JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:20pm 4:30am+1 3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763 4:40pm 12:30am+1 2, 4, 6

**GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN** 

3U8645 7:50pm 2:40am+1 1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN UA190/6397 9:55am 5:35pm 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM OZ702/625 12:30pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN OZ702/625 12:30pm 1:40am+1 PR110/UA6395 10:05pm 8:05am+1 Daily via GUM 2, 5 via ROR-GUM UA192/6395 10:20pm 8:05am+1 UA184/6395 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/6395 11:55pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN 07722/625 OZ722/625 1:15pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN 12:45am+1 3, 7 HX076 5:50pm 4:50pm 12:05am+1 2, 6 UO42 6:05pm 1:10am+1 UO42 6:10pm 1:10am+1 9:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM UA116/6395

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

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TINIAN	TO SAIPA	.N	6:30PM 6:30PM	6:45PM 6:45PM	Daily Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
DEPARTUR	e arrival	FREQUENCY			,			
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed,	SAIPAN	TO TINIA	\N	SAIPAN	TO ROTA	4
		Thu, Fri, Sat	DEPARTUR	E ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed,
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			Thu, Fri, Sat
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues, Wed,
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			Thu, Fri, Sat
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily	DOTA TO	CAIDAA	
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily	ROTA TO	J SAIPAI	N
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed,
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			Thu, Fri, Sat
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily	4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed,
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			Thu, Fri, Sat

# Docomo Pacific's Susupe branch is now open

By ERWIN ENCINARES erwin\_encinares@saipantribune.com

REPORTER

Docomo Pacific's Susupe branch opened its doors to the public on Thursday, promising an interactive experience for its customers.

After operating in the CNMI for 15 year with one branch in Gualo Rai, the new branch in Susupe will bring a new experience to guests.

"It is more open, more welcoming, and more interactive," said Docomo Pacific chief executive officer and president Donald Kriegel.

Once one enters the branch, a handful of the company's latest tech devices will greet you at the door, all of which are available to the public for use within the shop.

Dino Manning, vice president and general manager for Docomo Pacific CNMI, said the store introduces an innovative concept that allows guests to interact with devices. "You can go in and touch everything and play with the devices on display."

"You would be able to experience all of our services in the store itself," Manning added.

The aim of the new branch is to simulate ones living room. Manning said the absence of barriers is an invitation to customers to have a more personal transaction with the Docomo staff. It includes several exciting features:

■ Top 10 display: This



Acting governor Victor B. Hocog, center, joins the ribbon-cutting with, from left, Joeten Inc. board chair Clarence Tenorio, Docomo Pacific chief commercial officer Thomas Higa, Docomo Pacific chief executive officer Jonathan Kriegel, Saipan Mayor David Apatang, and Docomo Pacific vice president and general manager Dino Manning.

display invites customers to discover the industry's most advanced devices.

- Customer service bays: Stations focused on providing individualized customer support.
- Accessory panel display: Areas throughout the space that highlight the island's largest selection of mobile accessories.
- In-store charging station: A convenient, secure station that allows customers to rapidly charge their device.

"This is a new store built with a new concept. We would renovate our Gualo Rai store [similar] to this eventually," he said. The Gualo Rai store



Customers check out the newly open Docomo Pacific Susupe branch.

ERWIN ENCINARES

location will temporarily close on April 15 as it undergoes renovations. Upgrades will be completed in time for a reopening in early summer.

"Our new home in Susupe is our major investment to enhance customer experience. This is just the beginning of several initiatives planned this year as we enter into a new era of communications in the Marianas," added Manning.

This year Docomo Pacific will complete the deployment of Atisa—a new submarine fiber-optic cable system that will connect Guam with the CNMI offering new and sustainable online, TV, mobile and home phone services.

When asked about the branch's new location, Manning said that Susupe is perfect because the new branch is located across long-time partner Joeten Inc.'s Joeten Susupe, a high traffic area.

Acting governor Victor B. Hocog, who was present at the ribbon cutting, seized on the opportunity to extend his gratitude to the services Docomo Pacific provides to the CNMI community.

"Thank you to Docomo for bringing our family together and providing more opportunity to our residents and business users," he said

The Docomo Pacific Susupe branch would be open from 8am to 6pm, Monday through Friday, and 9am to 5pm on Saturdays.

## GMA7 'I-Witness' to feature the Marianas

The Philippines GMA Network will feature the Marianas on "I-Witness," the country's longest running and most awarded TV program.

Show host Jose Taruc III and a filming crew were on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota on March 22-30, 2017, to film two episodes, one highlighting the Marianas as a world-class eco-and sports tourism destination and the other retracing the remnants of World War II's largest operational air base on Tinian.

"Through our negotiation with the network, we enticed

'I-Witness' to the Marianas for two exciting stories that will reach millions of viewers in the Philippines and around the world, which is a tremendous exposure opportunity for us," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "This prestigious program is an excellent avenue for us to share some of the things that make the Marianas a world-class destination."

While on Saipan, the team filmed the Eagle Ray City dive site, Saipan Marathon 2017, Deepstar submarine tour of World War II wrecks.

"Best Beach & Snorkeling" award site Managaha, WWII and scenic tour of Saipan, an ATV tour, skydiving, Garapan Street Market, SandCastle Saipan dinner show, numerous Tinian WWII sites, and an interview with historian Don Farrell, plus many Rota historic sites and attractions.

"I-Witness" has 2.5-million viewers in the Philippines and an additional 4 million viewers worldwide. The 27-minute shows on the Marianas will air in April and August 2017, with an estimated ad exposure value of \$820,000. (MVA)



Pacific Development Inc. general manager Gordon Marciano, center, is interviewed by the Philippines' "I-Witness" documentary television program on Saipan during their filming in March, 2017.



The "I-Witness" production team films at the Garapan Street Market on Saipan, on March 28, 2017.



Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Christopher A. Concepcion, third from left, with members of the "I-Witness" production team at Paseo de Marianas, Saipan, in March, 2017. From left are assistant cameraman Aldrin Lacson, episode director Merilea Liamoso, Concepcion, show host Jose Taruc III, cameraman Jayson Cruz, and Drone & Underwater cameraman Vicente Eribal.

## IT&E donates 10K for Flame Tree Arts Festival

Telecommunications firm IT&E, in partnership with the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture, presented \$10,000 in cash and in-kind donations for the 2017 Flame Tree Arts Festival to be held at the Garapan Fishing Base from April 20 to 23.

For several years, IT&E has been a proud sponsor of the flame tree arts festival and this year, the event is expected to be bigger than ever.

According to council executive director Parker Yobei, support for the festival has assisted in efforts to promote regional arts.

"Preserving and perpetuating these art forms bring beauty and meaning to our daily lives. We thank IT&E for supporting our mission to promote the culture," he said.

For almost four decades now, the Flame Tree Arts Festival has celebrated the natural and cultural beauty of the Pacific region, said chief operating officer John Compton.

"IT&E recognizes the talent and craftsmanship of many IT&E presents \$10,000 in cash and in-kind donations as a sponsor of the 2017 Flame Tree Arts Festival. From left. Natasha Tomokane, prepaid product manager, KKMP's Gary Sword, arts council executive director Parker Yobei, postpaid product manager Veronica Acosta, and Sales & Marketing manager Hans Mickelson.

artists in the Marianas and the Pacific region. Providing the community and tourists the opportunity to experience grassroots talent and gain exposure is inspiring. We are a proud supporter of the festival and look forward to it every year," he aid, adding that the festival strengthens the community and builds a better network for indigenous arts and expression.

This year the FTAF features cooking competition, language competitions, games demonstration, and other audio/visual contest.

If you'd like to learn more about the 2017 Flame Tree Arts Festival, log on to flametreefestival.com. (IT&E)



## New restaurant boasts of 'spicy' Sichuan cuisine



**ERWIN ENCINARES** 

Yi Pin Restaurant owner Tony Wang meets with a friend outside the newly opened Yi Pin restaurant.

## By ERWIN ENCINARES

erwin encinares@saipantribune.com

The surge of economic activity in the CNMI has piqued the interest of many businessmen and one of the many to take advantage of the rising economy is Chinese businessman Tony Wang.

Wang is the owner of Yi Pin Restaurant, a Sichuan cuisine restaurant that caters to those who are passionate for Chinese food that fall on the "hot and spicy" side of the plate.

The newly opened restaurant started operation last March 5. The initial opening was planned last July 2016, but widespread CW-1 problems at that time delayed the opening of the establishment. The restaurant

has five VIP rooms that allow seating for 12 guests. Three of the five rooms may be joined together to accommodate 36 visitors at a time, while the other two may be done the same to accommodate up

to 24 guests. Besides the impressive sliding walls that join together the VIP rooms, the main dining area boasts six round tables equipped with their own lazy Susan, a staple in authentic Chinese restaurants.

Also in the main dining area are four booths designed to seat up to six people, giving the restaurant the ability to cater for up to 144 guests.

Yi Pin is open to catering negotiations, based the number of people that will be served.

Lunch operation hours for Yi Pin is from 11am to 2pm. Their dinner service is from 5pm to 10pm. Yi Pin serves lunch buffets everyday for \$9.99 for tourists while residents may avail of a 10-percent discount, for just \$8.99. Lunch buffet on Sundays feature a variety of seafood, bumping up the cost to \$14.99.

According to Wang, Yi Pin buys its produce from

#### the Sabalu and Garapan Public Market to support local produce. For items not available on island, Wang said he would ship from either China

or the U.S.

Yi Pin's dinner service is no slouch. The restaurant caters to those looking for a Sichuan cuisine fix, a cuisine that revolves around the spiciness of peppers.

With numerous authentic Chinese dishes such as Angus beef flakes, orchid meringue duck, kung pao chicken, fried duck with ginger, and Sichuan style stew pork, those familiar with Chinese dishes will certainly not be disappointed.

For more information, call Yi Pin Restaurant at 233-9288. Yi Pin is located across the Mobil gas station on Middle Road.

## Saipan's Jastillana named to dean's list

BOSTON, MA—Lee Ann Jastillana of Saipan has been named to the Emerson College dean's list for the fall 2016 semester. Jastillana is majoring in journalism. The requirement to make Emerson's dean's list is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher.

Based in Boston, Massachusetts, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College has approximately 3,500 undergraduates and 670 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs at Emerson Los Angeles, located in Hollywood, and at its 14th-century castle in the Netherlands.

Additionally, there are op-

## portunities to study in Washing-

ton, D.C., London, China, the Czech Republic, Spain, Austria, Greece, France, Ireland, Mexico, Cuba, England, and South Africa. For more information, visit emerson.edu. (PR)

## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO happy Belated birthday, Gradnma Emi. With much love rom Devon, Dremian, and all our families.



**ETC DONATIONS** 

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mount Carmel School is deeply grateful to Triple J Enterprises and Saipan Apparel who recently made Education Tax Credit contributions to the school.

# Red Cross weather cam is up and running

In December 2016, a powerful earthquake hit the Solomon Islands with a magnitude close to 8 on the Richter scale. The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center issued alerts throughout the Pacific in Oceania.

Amongst the islands notified was the CNMI. John Hirsh, executive director of the Red Cross on Saipan, was immediately informed of the possible tsunami threat.

Although the tsunami warning did not generate a destructive wave, Hirsh understood the severity of damage it could potentially have on the islands. It was the start of a collaborative effort—to better equip the CNMI against potential natural disasters.

Hirsh immediately researched and found a solution. He contacted Earth-Cam, a webcam network in New Jersey that provides Web-camera content, technology, and services to clients worldwide. After receiving a generous donation of a weather-durable Webcamera, Hirsh reached out to business partners to establish the live weather stream.

Hyatt Regency Saipan, located on 14 acres of lush tropical garden with panoramic views of the Pacific Ocean, was one of his first calls due to its location. With a secure rooftop, the live weather camera would provide the Red Cross, Emergency Management, and National Weather



From left, Hyatt Regency Saipan Finance director Yoshio Gabaldon; IT&E chief executive officer John Compton; Red Cross executive director John Hirsh; Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick Nishikawa; Transcend IT Solutions technology consultant and owner, Mark Badal; and IT&E Sales and Marketing manager Hans Mickelson.

Service in Guam live, realtime views of potential threats, not to mention gorgeous ocean views on better days.

"Hyatt has been a CNMI resident for 37 years now, and it is a part of our mission to care of our people—guests, colleagues and especially our community members. The American Red Cross shares these same values, and, we are honored to support their efforts," said Nick Nishikawa. general manager of Hyatt Regency Saipan.

To establish a live, working network, IT&E and Transcend IT Solutions contributed as sponsoring partners. Transcend IT Solutions provided implementation, network and infrastructure design for the project. Working alongside IT&E, the sponsors implemented camera configurations, mounting and installation. Over the course of several weeks, technicians structured and configured cabling to ensure the installation was successful.

"Transcends IT Solutions will continue to provide support and maintenance to the weather camera," said Mark Badal, technology consultant and owner. "Transcend IT Solutions is committed in partnering with the community and non-profit organizations like Red Cross on projects that serve and benefit the community."

'We are delighted that our fiber optic network has been able to assist the American Red Cross and the Saipan

community to constantly monitor the approaching weather and therefore be better prepared to deal with severe weather events. This is just one example of how IT&E is working every day to improve the lives of our customers and our community," said John Compton, IT&E chief executive officer.

CNMI residents are encouraged to visit the Red Cross website for live streaming from the newly installed web-(http://www.redcross.

org/local/northern-marianaislands/live-webcam).

"It's another important tool in our toolbox that enables us to monitor island weather conditions so that we can all better prepare for potential threats. NMI residents as well as the rest of the world can also watch breathtaking sunsets from the rooftop of the Hyatt Regency Saipan. The American Red Cross is thankful for the continued support from our business partners," said Hirsh. (PR)

## SandCastle donates deluxe tickets for Hyatt golf classic raffle prizes

Hyatt Regency Saipan's 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic was presented with 11 deluxe Kan Show tickets for guests worth over \$2,000, placing SandCastle, LLC and Baldyga Group in the platinum sponsorship tier.

The deluxe Kan Show tickets will be available at the dinner banquet on the evening of April 22, 2017, after the golf tournament. Golfers and their guests are encouraged to purchase raffle tickets in the amount of \$1, \$5, or \$10, which may include the deluxe Kan Show tickets and many other prizes. With generous donations from event sponsors, Hyatt Regency Saipan has an array of prizes, from designer handbags to roundtrip tickets to Southeast Asia, Korea, Japan, Philippines and Europe that will be paired with hotel nights at other Hyatt and Hyatt Regency hotels.

'Sharing in the mission of Hyatt, and on behalf of SandCastle Saipan, LLC and Baldyga Group, I'd like to

thank Hyatt Regency Saipan for the opportunity to contribute to this year's 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic. The six beneficiaries each support the island community in impactful ways and all improve the quality of life. We hope to see a great turnout for the golf tournament and encourage golfers to invite their significant others and friends to the dinner banquet poolside where I hear there is further opportickets to some exotic places, said SandCastle operations manager Jojo Valencia.

The Baldyga Group has a branch on the island of Guam, with three divisions: BG Tours, BG Media and BG Services with established businesses including tourist attractions, restaurants, nightclubs, media and contract services. BG Tours is Guam's largest tourist attraction group, with seven world-class tours and attractions. BG Media provides clients media and print resources in television, digital signage and online media. BG Services include food and beverage catering services, real estate development and project management as well as hospitality franchise operation and consultation services.

Partnering with SandCastle, LLC the organizations host live shows nightly in their theatre located inside Hyatt Regency Saipan. Their latest show, Magic Rocks, features the famous rock illusionist tunity to win hotel and travel Leon Etienne. For more information and reservations, call 233-7263.

Through the contributions of partnering organizations as the SandCaste, LLC and Baldyga Group, the Hyatt Regency Saipan Charity Golf Classic is a channel for displaying that care factor for members of our island com-

The 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic event will be held on April 22, 2017, at LaoLao Bay Golf and Resort west course. Early bird reg-



From left, SandCastle Saipan, LLC and Baldyga Group operations manager Jojo Valencia; Hyatt Regency Saipan F&B director Tyrell Pauling; Hyatt Regency Saipan Rooms director Rosalyn Quintanilla; SandCastle Saipan, LLC and Baldyga Group director of entertainment Chuck McCarroll; and Hyatt Regency Saipan executive chef Gabriele Colombo.

17, at 4pm for a rate of \$100 per golfer. Registration forms

istration is open until April can be downloaded from the Hyatt Regency® Saipan event page website: http://bit.

ly/2jF0MEn.

For more information contact 234-1234 Ext. 26. (PR)

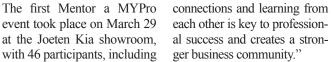
## First 'Mentor a MYPro' sees over 46 attendees





CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

One of the mentors was Vicky Benavente, special assistant for Project Development - CNMI Office of the Governor.



20 new members. MYPro member HyunJae Catered by Everest Kitchen, Lee, a lawyer, was thanked with beverages provided by for her monetary donation to Joeten and Saipan Brewery, CARE CNMI to help ease the mentors and MYPro memrecovery after the destruction of Typhoon Soudelor. bers snacked on some healthy dishes, sipped craft beer and Conversation starters were

chatted about careers, success provided to all tables, which stories and challenges of the included multiple questions for professional world. mentors to address. MYPros "We had a great turnout, it's were also invited to introduce nice to see how the mentors themselves and tell their stories really took this seriously and as well as ask any questions. gave some great advice to our

young professionals here," said

MYPros president Matthew

Deleon Guerrero. "Making

Polly Masga, general manager of Marianas Medical Center said, "I was asked about my pathway to where I am today.



As mentors, I believe that sharing our success stories is great, but sharing our trials and challenges during that course is what was the true outcome of success. Balance is the key to everything and always stay true to who you are and what you believe in."

Mentors stayed seated at tables throughout the showroom while MYPros rotated to each table so everyone had a chance to meet, greet and connect.

"This event was really fun!" said Myla Capilitan, MYPro Social Media Networking committee chair. "Getting to talk to all these amazing people in our professional community and hearing how they

their hard work and dedication, was inspiring."

With the economy picking up in the CNMI, the need for highly trained professionals is at an all-time high.

Rep. Vinnie Sablan of the 20<sup>th</sup> CNMI Legislature said, "It was an honor to be given the change to mentor our MYPros. Sharing experiences and different perspectives on issues helps everyone look ahead on how we can all deal with what we are all going through in the society we live in."

MYPros is a non-profit that was created for the young professionals on Saipan. This



director David Maratita; Ber-

tha Leon Guerrero, human re-

sources, Imperial Pacific Inter-

national; Polly Masga, general

manager, Marianas Medical

Center; Shirley Sablan, EVP/

general manager, Pacifica In-

surance Underwriters, Rep.

Ivan Blanco, 20th CNMI Leg-

islatur; Fran Castro, manager,

CNMI Bureau of Environ-



Join the MYPros for "The Backpack Beach Cleanup" on April 29 at 7:30am at Forbidden Island. Check their Facebook page for more information: facebook. com/mypros670 or contact Sheila Babauta at 287-8151 or email at sheilababauta@ gmail.com. (PR)



got to be where they are today,

# GCA students bag seven golds in forensic tilt



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO Grace Christian Academy's National Junior Speech and Debate Association regional winners.

Grace Christian Academy students bagged seven gold medals in this school year's regional forensic arts competitions in all divisions from Kindergarten to 12th grade.

Four GCA gold medalists will join the CNMI team in the upcoming national competitions for National Junior Speech and Debate Association and National Speech and Debate Association this June in Birmingham, Alabama.

The GCA's gold medalists were led by 12<sup>th</sup> grader Minna Natsuko Ito, who will represent the CNMI in original oratory.

This may be Ito's last forensics competition but her best yet because she also won another two gold medals in expository speech and impromptu speech.

Ito, a veteran competitor who has been representing the islands in different categories since 6th grade, said, "Speech and debate has been such a huge part of my life, from performing Shel Silverstein's 'Sick' in first grade to competing at the national level in high school. I feel so honored to represent my island in Birmingham in my last year of high school, and I will definitely work my hardest to bring pride to the CNMI."

Another 12<sup>th</sup> grader and veteran competitor, Yujin Lee, will join Ito in the CNMI National Debate and Speech Association team after winning gold in dramatic interpretation.

"It was truly an honor to represent not only Grace Christian Academy but the CNMI for the last seven years," said Lee.

Lee said that joining the national speech and debate competitions "has been one of the best decisions of my life, a door to a whole new world was opened for me. For my last trip, I will cherish every moment and do my best in my performances. I hope to set an example for my younger peers so that they will come to join and love the NSDA."

GCA also has two gold medalists who will join the CNMI National Junior Speech and Debate Association team for the national competition.

Both first timers at the national competition, Na Lee Christy Lee and James Alexander Keaton were excited after winning the gold medals in Lincoln-Douglas debate and extemporaneous speaking, respectively.

The 8th grader Lee said, "Joining NJSDA for the past vears has honed my skills in public speaking. This year, I am honored to represent GCA in the Lincoln-Douglas debate for the regional competition. My hard work paid off, and it will truly be an awesome privilege to represent the CNMI team at the national competition in June. This trip will not only enhance my skills, but surely build memories, friendship, teamwork, and help me gain more experience that will continually help me in my future public speaking."

Keaton, a 7th grader, was enthralled upon learning that he won the top spot in extemporaneous speaking. "Reading different articles as well as present issues helped me organized my thoughts in preparation for the competition. Truly, I am honored to represent the CNMI team in Birmingham. This event will give me more experience, meeting new friends as a team and, most importantly, to inspire others though public speaking.'

Fourth grader Tae Hee Kim, who won a gold medal in dramatic interpretation, will represent GCA at the Primary Grades Forensic Conference special banquet presentation for the PGFC gold medalists at the end of the school year. Like all the older gold medalists who started competing in PGFC competitions during their younger years, Kim has been competing since she was in kindergarten. Kim believes in the old adage "practice makes perfect," which their PGFC coordinator Esther Manzano always tell the competitors. "I feel proud, and I think that this well-known saying is true. I also feel really blessed in my PGFC accomplishment this school year,"



Grace Christian Academy's Primary Grade Forensic Competition 2017 regional winners.

Kim said.

Organized by the National Forensic League board with Harold Easton as the chairman and supported by the CNMI Public School System, PGFC, NJSDA, and NSDA competitions encourage public and private school students to participate in and become proficient in the forensic arts: reading, debate, public speaking, and interpretations.

PGFC coordinators and competition registrar Esther Manzano and NJSDA/NSDA Grace Duran, together with all the GCA volunteer judges, parents, teachers, and administrators, are very proud of all their forensic competitors this year.

## **NSDA WINNERS** (9TH-12TH GRADE)

All of the 10 GCA competitors who competed with over a hundred 9th to 12th grade students from private and public schools at this year's NSDA regional competition (held in March at Marianas High School) won one or more of the top major awards.

## Minna Natsuko Ito

1st Place in Original Oratory 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Expository Speech 1st place in Impromptu Speech

#### Yujin Lee

1st Place in Dramatic Interpretation 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in Story Telling 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Prose Reading 5th Place in Poetry Reading

## Sumin Melody Woo

3<sup>rd</sup> Place in Dramatic Interpretation

4<sup>th</sup> Place in Poetry Reading

## Arvin Davao

2<sup>nd</sup> Place in U.S. Extemporaneous Speech

Commentary finalist

#### Martin Angelo Pangilinan

3rd Place in U.S. Extemporaneous Speech

Commentary finalist

#### Lanz Jabez Victoria

4th Place International Extemporaneous Speech

Commentary finalist

#### Tae Yong Kim

5th Place in Dramatic Interpreta-

Semifinalist in Poetry Reading

Alice Kim, 5th Place in Duo Interpretation Semi Finalist in Prose Reading

5<sup>th</sup> Place in Duo Interpretation

#### **NJSDA WINNERS** (6TH-8TH GRADE)

Almost all of the GCA competitors who competed with over a hundred 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from private and public schools advanced to the next rounds in this year's NJSDA regional competition (held in February at Mount Carmel School).

Na Lee Christy Lee, 1st Place in Lincoln Douglas Debate, 5th Place in Extemporaneous Speech

James Alexander Keaton, 1st Place in Extemporaneous Speech

Joyce Liv Francisco, Semi Finalist in Poetry Reading

Emily Lee, Semi Finalist in Poetry Reading

Steven Adriatico, Semi Finalist in **Prose Reading** 

Matthew Ernest, Semi Finalist in **Prose Reading** 

Anthony Jacob Camacho DLG, Finalist in Extemporaneous Speech

Soleil Lamar, Finalist in Duo Interpretation

Brandie Matsumoto, Finalist in Duo Interpretation

NJSDA/NSDA Coach/Coordinator- Miss Grace Duran

## **PGFC WINNERS**

Over 200 Kindergarten to 5th grade students from 10 private and public schools vied for this school year's PGFC regional awards in forensic arts: reading, public speaking, and interpretations at Grace Christian Academy last March 25.

#### **KINDERGARTEN -2ND GRADE First Round**



Grace Christian Academy's National Speech and Debate Association regional winners.

**Humorous Interpretation A** Hans Gabriel Ordas, 3rd Place Hannah Gabaldon, 5th Place

Impromptu Speaking A Jonathan Rosh Vivero, 2nd Place Hans Gabriel Ordas, 3rd Place Sofia Cariaso, 5th Place

Impromptu Speaking B Arielle Mae Matutino, 1st Place Min Su Andy Kim, 5th Place

## **Final Round**

**Humorous Interpretation** Hans Gabriel Ordas, 5th Place Hannah Gabaldon, Finalist Breanna May Lopez, Finalist Aiyana Victory Fatialofa, Finalist

Dramatic Interpretation Maria Sofia Gomez, 3rd Place Breanna May Lopez, 5th Place

Impromptu Speaking Arielle Mae Matutino, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Jonathan Rosh Vivero, Finalist Hans Gabriel Ordas, Finalist Sofia Cariaso, Finalist Mariska Badal, Finalist Llyana Jaira Manalang, Finalist Min Su Andy Kim, Finalist

**Readers Forum** Llyanna Jaira Manalang, Finalist

## 3RD GRADE-5TH GRADE First Round

Readers Forum A Eunice Nicole Pagaduan, 4th Place

Readers Forum Masters B Jennifer Woo Tae, 1st Place Ashley Ji Hye Jeon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Readers Forum Masters D Tae Hee Kim, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Readers Forum Masters E Azriel Fatialofa, 1st Place Yellena Sarang Kim, 3rd Place

**Humorous Interpretation A** William Matthew Cano, 4th Place Azriel Fatialofa, 5th Place

**Humorous Interpretation B Ashley Ji Hye Jeon, 3rd Place** Serim Woo, 5th Place

**Duo Interpretation B** Moira Grace Ernest, 4th Place Seungeun Olivia Ha. 4th Place Impromptu Speaking A Eunice Nicole Pagaduan, 2nd Place Nestor Ablog Jr., 2nd Place

Impromptu Speaking B Moira Grace Ernest, 3rd Place

Readers Forum Quarter Finals A Jennifer Woo. 1st Place Eunice Nicole Pagaduan, 3rd Place Ashley Ji Hye Jeon, 5th Place Rafael Busby, Quarter Finalist

Readers Forum Quarter Finals B Tae Hee Kim, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Nestor Ablog Jr., 4th Place

Readers Forum Quarter Finals C Kei Lizama, 4th Place Azriel Fatialofa, Quarter Finalist Yellena Sarang Kim, Quarter **Finalist** 

**Readers Forum Semi Finals** Ashley Ji Hye Jeon, 1st Place Tae Hee Kim, 4th Place Kei Lizama, 5th Place Jennifer Woo, Semi Finalist Angieleysha Marie Punzalan, Semi Finalist **Eunice Nicole Pagaduan, Semi Finalist** Nestor Ablog Jr., Semi Finalist

**Final Round Dramatic Interpretation** Tae Hee Kim, 1st Place Jennifer Woo, 4th Place

**Humorous Interpretation** William Matthew Cano, Finalist Azriel Fatialofa, Finalist Sena Woo, Finalist Ashley Ji Hye Jeon, Finalist Serim Woo, Finalist Olivia Ha, Finalist

**Duo Interpretation** Moira Grace Ernest, Finalist Seungeun Olivia Ha, Finalist

Impromptu Speaking Moira Grace Ernest, 3rd Place **Eunice Nicole Pagaduan, Finalist Nestor Ablog Jr., Finalist** Alex Kim, Finalist

**Readers Forum Masters** Tae Hee Kim, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Ashley Ji Hye Jeon, Finalist Kei Lizama, Finalist Jennifer Woo, Finalist Angieleysha Marie Punzalan, **Finalist** 

## Triple J donates \$30,000 to CNMI schools

In the last week of March, Triple J Saipan Inc. donated a total of \$30,000 to 13 different schools throughout Saipan.

These multiple donations will be used for educational programs, maintenance, upkeep, upgrades as well as educational supplies and other necessary items.

These funds were donated under the Education Tax Credit Program, which has been active in the CNMI since 1997.

Several Triple J affiliated companies were a part of the donation, including Triple J Motors Saipan, Hertz, Saipan Comfort Homes, Sandy Beach Homes, and Bubba Gump Shrimp Co.

"We were so excited to be able to donate a substantial amount to our island's schools to help with anything they need. The future of Saipan is in our education system; it's with our youth. We must provide them adequate and equipped learning centers to help them grow, thrive and succeed here in the CNMI. With Saipan's explosive growth, there is nothing more important than education," said Robert H. Jones. chairman and CEO of Triple J.

Agnes McPhetres, NMTI CEO, said, "We can now start on our new hotel, hospitality and restaurant management training facility! Our enrollment numbers are climbing and we need to keep up with the latest technologies and training solutions to give our youth a cutting-edge education."

Triple J opened two, brandnew restaurants in 2016 and broke ground on an apartment complex that was finished in less than a year.

'We have a stake in helping our CNMI youth get the best education they can get. We need, and want them to join us in our ever-growing corporate family," said Tracy Guerrero, Triple J Saipan's corporate controller. "We need to start now and provide additional resources and promote higher education here, as well as encourage our skilled local workforce to stay on island and work at local businesses. Our opportunities and jobs continue

to grow here in the CNMI."

The schools that received donations are Hopwood Jr. High, Whispering Palms, Saipan Community School, Mt. Carmel School, San Vicente Elementary School, Northern Marianas Trades Institute, Garapan Elementary School, William S. Reyes Elementary, Marianas High School and Northern Marianas College.

Triple J Enterprises Inc. has served the island communities for over three decades. The Triple J group of companies has several major operations, which include the Triple J sents Hyundai, Mitsubishi and Mazda; Triple J Rentals, the licensee for Hertz Rent-A-Car in Guam, Saipan and Palau; Five Star Wholesale Foods, the distributor of high-quality food items including Certified Angus Beef, Hawaii Water, and Tyson food products; and, Triple J Restaurant Group which owns and operates Outback Steakhouse in Guam. and Bubba Gump Shrimp Co., Surf Club, Tony Roma's, Capricciosa and Truong's Vietnamese Restaurant on Saipan. For more information, visit www.triplejgroup.net. (PR)

Auto Group, which repre-

## The best of luck to all nominees'

REPORTER

As one of seven nominees for this year's 12th Annual Businesswoman of the Year Maga'håga Award, Velma Ann M. Palacios could only describe it as both "humbling and unexpected."

"I'm very honored and humbled just to be nominated. I wasn't expecting to be among these great women," said Palacios.

She also considers it flattering to be considered as having made a difference in her field.

Palacios is IT&E's director of network operations and head of network for CNMI as well as manager of engineering and manager of plant technical services. She's also in her final year as president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

"I already met the other nominees in Guam and just being around them is already a pleasure. For me, we're all winners. They are all amazing women who've done so much for the business sector and to their respective communities. It is truly and honor just to be nominated with them."

The award winner will be announced on April 29 at the Hyatt Regency Guam.

The other nominee from the CNMI is Kanae Ouinn. She owns Ouinn Consulting LLC and is a co-owner of Marianas Fitness Ltd., which operates Gold's Gym Saipan.

Shirley Ann T. Sablan was the first from the CNMI to receive the award almost three years ago. She's the executive vice president and general manager of Pacific Insurance Underwriters Inc.

The other nominees are Glendalyn C. Carolino (Polyphase System Inc. and Guam Electrical Material Supply), Pika P. Fejeran (Hot Concepts Inc.), Ramona L. Jones (Jones and Guerrero Co. Inc.), Melanie Mendiola (Farm to Table Guam), and Jennifer LG. Rodriguez (Loco Promos).

Last year, Eleanor T. Cabrera (Naked Fish Bar & Grill), Wendi S. Herring (Asia Pacific Hotels Inc.), and Polly D. Masga (Marianas Medical Center) were nominated for the award that was won by Hyatt Regency Guam general manager Sophia Chu Wigsten.

Jessica M. Barrett (Barrett Enterprises Inc.), Dr. Jitka Lom (ExpressCare Health and Skin Center Inc.), and Donna R. Muna Quinata (Guam AutoSpot) were also nominated in 2015.

First Hawaiian Bank and Guam Business magazine hands out the annual award. It recognizes female business leaders in the Marianas— Guam and the CNMI-who have been active in their respective field as well as in each of their communities.

## Power outage on Saipan tomorrow

3pm to 5pm, to allow line crew of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to safely replace a rotted primary power pole in China Town along Komiti Ave.

This is part of an ongoing maintenance program to strengthen and harden the integrity of the power distribution system throughout the island.

Areas to be affected: China Town (Commonwealth Dr., Uruwow Ln., Congress Ln., World War Two Ln., Legislature Ln., Linao Ln., Nimitz

There will be a scheduled Ln., Speaker Ln., Komiti Av., power interruption tomorrow, Judge Wy., Matsue St., Husga Tuesday, April 11, 2017, from Av., Director Ct., Chamber Ct., Senate Av., Sugar King Rd., Village Ln., Covenant Ln., Politic Ln., Freedom Drive., Convention Pl., Justice Pl., and Saina Pl.)

Travelers are urged to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the affected areas. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor its Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/ Commonwealth UtilitiesCorporationl). (CUC)



Mount Carmel School is deeply grateful to Triple J Enterprises for its Educational Tax Credit donation.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Bordallo statement on Calvo no longer supporting the buildup

WASHINGTON, **D.C.**— Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) issued the following statement on Thursday in response to Gov. Eddie Calvo's remarks at the Rotary Club of Guam indicating that his administration is no longer supporting the military buildup.

"I share Governor Calvo's frustrations over the strains the denial of H-2B worker has had on our community, but his reversal to no longer support the buildup is abrupt and may not immediately solve these challenges. I agree that Republicans and the Trump administration have not demonstrated any willingness or initiative to address the unique challenges

of our island. Since the beginning of last year, I have been working diligently with [the Department of Defense] to stress to [U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services] the importance of the H-2B program to having an adequate workforce [in] Guam, and we are working to provide legislative relief in this year's defense bill. We successfully included this legislation in last year's bill but it was stripped out by the Republican-led Senate. While the Trump administration lacks a clear domestic strategy, I have been and continue to work on a broader permanent solution that will address Guam's unique workforce challenges.

"I continue to believe that the buildup will be good for Guam and provide us with opportunities to expand and grow our community-through additional job creation as well new specialized industries in areas like telecommunications and cyber security. It's also critical for the continued security of our region, especially in light of growing threats from North Korea. We have invested heavily in supporting this buildup and while there have been challenges along the way, we continue to make progress to ensure that it is good for Guam and our people. Turning back now may jeopardize this progress, which includes significant civilian infrastructure investments and will settle outstanding land use challenges, such as the netnegative commitment [that] reduces the military footprint on our island.

"I hope Governor Calvo is sincere when he says that he wants the buildup to happen, but that the H-2B challenges have forced his hand. I will continue to work with him and our stakeholders to push for an H-2B solution as well as advocate for a military buildup that addresses our community's concerns and provides opportunities that are good for our people. We have had and will continue to have our challenges, but by working together, we will overcome them." (PR)

## Sewer odor in Puerto Rico, south of Middle Road

There will be a sewage odor in the areas of Puerto Rico and south of the Chalan Pale Arnold Road starting today, April 10, 2017, through April 17, 2017.

On the morning of Monday,

April 10, 2017, an aeration basin at the Sadog Tasi treatment plant that has been sitting idle for two years will be brought back on line. The stagnant water is expected to produce foul odors until it is re-aerated.

Puerto Rico and south of Chalan Pale Arnold Road may experience strong odors, which should dissipate throughout the week and return back to normal by Monday, April 17, 2017, 8am.

information, For more contact the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customer call center (664-4282) or monitor CUC's Facebook page for the latest updates (https:// www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). (CUHC)

SAIPAN TRIBUNE MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2017 19

## Health & Fitness

## TIPS FOR A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP:

# Focus on good times, breathe deeply, get a foot massage

By LESLIE BARKER

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS/TNS

ony Reed believes in the power of sleep. He cherishes his nightly eight hours; hardly ever has trouble achieving them.

"It's rare, very rare, when I have problems falling asleep," says Reed, 61, a Dallas business manager, professional speaker and marathon runner.

But when that does happen, he's ready.

"What I do is to focus on the most peaceful time I ever had in my life," he says. "For me, that was being on a camping trip for a week, just sleeping in tents and just really enjoying everything. We were only 15 or 16, had our whole lives ahead of us, and we would just go on hikes at night and talk and solve all the problems of the world."

Daniel Taylor, a sleep researcher and professor at the University of North Texas, identifies Reed's technique as "imagery."

"It's essentially relaxation," says Taylor, whose latest research project, conducted with fellow UNT psychologist Kimberly Kelly, will be on the effect sleep deprivation has on the way nurses respond to the flu vaccine.

"People use imagery any number of ways," Taylor says. "You hear them saying, 'Imagine yourself on the beach. Smell the smells.' It gets you out of the here and now, away from whatever things might be stressing you out."

Who knows what those might be for any one person? But in a world where 30 percent of the population has what's called transient—or short-term—insomnia, apparently stressors abound. So do promising ways of dealing with them when they raise their annoying hands in the middle of the night.

We've all heard the basic tips: Restrict caffeine past early afternoon; limit bedroom activities to sleep and sex; turn off electronics an hour before bed; don't eat a heavy meal or exercise within a few hours of turning out the lights; keep the same sleep

One tip for falling asleep is focusing on a peaceful memory.

DREAMSTIME

waking hours—you might want to seek professional help.

"We call some people treatment-resistant," Taylor says. "It's kind of like antibiotic-resistant; it takes a specialist to implement the interventions."

If your insomnia is sporadic, you might start with what these North Texans recommend. For Reed, who considers sleep "highly underrated," imagery is his go-to. He becomes absorbed in that camping trip, and remembers how deeply he and his buddies—two Steves, a Jerome and a Larry—slept in the wilderness.

He still has the journal, and sometimes he'll pull it out and read it. When he wants to sleep, though, the memory of that trip is plenty. "How ambitious we were," he says, "just being full of life."

Reed believes that what happens in life falls into three categories: Something you

practicing the corpse pose—traditionally the resting pose done at the end of class—to help him relax outside of class, then for falling asleep at night. He'd focus on his breathing as he tensed and then relaxed his muscles, one section of his body at a time, from his toes to his head.

"That was a lot of years ago," says Manning, 61. "But over time, I did it and it became a natural thing. I fall asleep and I stay asleep."

This progressive muscle relaxation, as it is called, has been used as an insomnia treatment for many years, Taylor says. "I think PMR is always a good addition," he says. "It's good for anxiety, good for your health. I think yoga is a good addition for all wellness purposes."

For Manning, like for most of us, there have been stressful times in his life when he had to consciously put his mind to falling asleep. If you can't sleep, he says, you're thinking too much.

"It's kind of natural to think of things that happened during the day, and the brain begins to process it and files it away into long-term memory storage," Manning says. "Sometimes you get caught up and think about it and worry about it, and that keeps you from falling asleep properly."

But, he says, let the brain do its work. If you do that and focus on your breathing, "you don't pay attention to those random thoughts coming through."

Robin Plotkin, 47, sleeps well now. But, says the Dallas registered dietitian, who "relishes" sleep, "There have been times in my life when sleep evaded me and proved to be so damaging to every aspect of my life. Probably the largest came after my mother died."

That was 18 years ago. She had no trouble falling asleep, but then she'd awaken at 2 a.m., at 2:08, at 2:09, at 2:10. Her anxiety increased when she began anticipating those wee-hours' wake-ups. Then she'd lie in bed focusing on her insomnia and thinking, "If I fall asleep now, I'll still get two-and-a-half hours." Or ... "If I fall asleep now, I'll still get an hour."

"It's the mind games you play with your-

self," she says. "This went on for a couple of months. I could see how it affected my everyday life in terms of mood, energy level. Even my eating habits changed."

People told her to take a warm bath. To put lavender on her pillow. To make her room dark. They'd say, "Don't think about it," which, she says, "is impossible."

Eventually, she took control of her health, got into a routine and practiced more self-care. One way she continues is by having regular foot massages.

"Tve always loved massage, but thought of it as a treat, not something that was more of a wellness opportunity," says Plotkin. "I look at it now as almost a mandatory part of my health care."

She goes to Joy Foot in Far North Dallas, usually after dinner or for a girls' night out with friends

"My first foot, I decompress," Plotkin says. "With the second, I take a good nap." Once she gets home, "I just feel like I melt into my bed. When it's a stressful day or I have a lot going on or things aren't going the right way, that's what I do. I've never really thought about it this in-depth, but it's true.

"I'm sure some people don't equate massage to sleep," she says, "but it definitely helps me."

Here are some tips from experts on how to get a good night's sleep.

Find a portfolio of ways to help you relax. "It's what works for you," says UNT sleep researcher Daniel Taylor. "Some nights one thing won't work and another will. If your thing distracts you from whatever else is stressing you out, great."

Use the bedroom as a stimulus for sleep. No reading in bed. No talking to your spouse about other things, Taylor says. "The linkage between the bedroom and sleep gets broken by all the other things people are doing in the bedroom."

Change your mind about sleep. Develop realistic beliefs, he says. If you don't get eight hours, maybe your body doesn't need eight hours.

A lot of people go to bed, wake up, have a to-do list and try to problem-solve. Nighttime isn't the time to do that. Some people can say, 'There's nothing I can do about it now,' but some can't.

hours, even on weekends.

Beyond those, Taylor says, "There are a lot of things you can do."

But, he warns, "a lot of people will just try them for a couple of nights and when they don't work, they quit. That's like me going to the gym and getting upset when all of a sudden I'm not buff.

"You've had years of insomnia. A couple of nights won't get rid of it."

Some of the techniques include imagery, like Reed uses; yoga methods such as deep breathing and focusing, meditation, distraction from what's on your mind; and massage.

First, though, a caveat: If you have chronic insomnia—that is, if it's been going on at least three nights a week for at least three months and disturbing your

can control. Something you can influence. Something you can observe.

Daniel Taylor

"That makes it easier for me to sleep," he says, "because I'm not stressing over anything I can't control."

That's a good trick to realize, Taylor says. "A lot of people go to bed, wake up, have a to-do list and try to problem-solve. Night-time isn't the time to do that. Some people can say, "There's nothing I can do about it now," but some can't."

Advises sound sleeper Jim Manning, who lives in Grapevine: "Focus on your breathing instead of your thoughts."

Sleep has hardly eluded Manning since his days as a student at Southern Methodist University. That's when he took yoga for a physical education requirement. He began





Tan Siu Lin Foundation



**20** MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE



Most Rev. Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez, second right, leads the prayer before blessing the store.



IT&E's top brass with some of the special guests.



IT&E officials and the support staff of the Kagman branch pose for a group photo.



(R-Saipan), right, and Saipan Mayor David M Apatang during the grand opening of IT&E's Kagman service store on April 3.

Most Rev. Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez, left, blesses the store assisted by former lieutenant governor Diego Benavente.



Most Rev. Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez, second left, talks with IT&E chief executive officer Jim Oehlerking, right, and former lieutenant governor Diego Benavente.



From left, IT&E network operations director Velma Palacios, former lieutenant governor Diego Benavente, and IT&E customer service manager Janice Tenorio.

## Asiana donates round-trip ticket to Europe for Hyatt golf tourney

Hyatt Regency Saipan 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic received a round-trip ticket to a location of choice from Asiana Airlines.

The round-trip ticket will be placed as a part of the Discover Europe tour offered to the lucky ticket holder at the night of the banquet dinner poolside. Paired with luxurious hotel stays in four different countries across Europe: Park Hyatt Hamburg, Germany; Zurich Park Hyatt, Switzerland; Andaz Amsterdam; Hyatt Regency Paris Etoile all with a two to three-night stay—the Discover Europe tour is a one-of-a-kind raffle win that has never been offered before.

Golfers are encouraged to invite a guest or two to the dinner banquet poolside, \$35 per person. Raffle tickets in the amounts of \$1, \$5, or \$10 can be purchased after the tourna-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hyatt Regency Saipan director of Sales & Marketing, Danny Son, Asiana Airlines general manager Jong Hong Lee, and Asiana Airlines manager Ahn Min Kyung.

ment on April 22, 2017.

The 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic has an array of prizes, from designer handbags to high-end golf gear to round-trip tickets to Southeast Asia, Japan, Korea and Europe that will be paired with

hotel nights at other Hyatt and Hyatt Regency hotels.

Hyatt Regency Saipan is grateful for the support from

Asiana Airlines for sharing in the mission of caring for others. Asiana Airlines is rapidly expanding its territories since its

"The mission of Hyatt Regency Saipan, to care for others is one Asiana Airlines believes in. In our industry we work with many people of many different backgrounds. Hvatt Regency Saipan is a partner of ours and we both promote the exotic hospitality of the CNMI and its indigenous people," Asiana Airlines general manager Jong Hong Lee said. "This is why we support the 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic and the six beneficiaries in their mission to improve the quality of life for our community members."

Asiana Airlines is one of South Korea's two major airlines, with its headquarters in Seoul, Korea. The organization's ideology is to provide customer satisfaction and safety through service. With a strong management purpose, Asiana Airlines is rapidly expanding its territories since its inception, and, as a member of Star Alliance and it operates 14 domestic, 90 international passenger routes, and 27 cargo routes throughout Asia, Europe, North America, and Oceania.

Danny Son, director of Sales and Marketing Hyatt Regency Saipan said, "Asiana Airlines is an established entity on the island of Saipan for many years. A partner in the tourism industry, both Asiana Airlines and Hyatt Regency Saipan continue to work together to promote the hospitality of the CNMI. Sharing in common values of social responsibility, we are thankful for Asiana Airlines' support for our 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic. With six beneficiaries this year, we are ensured to make a greater impact in the community." **(PR)** 

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### Training sessions on 'customer service'

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce and Island Training Solutions present "Customer Service Excellence" a training seminar that will be conducted on April 20, 2017, from 9am to 12pm at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce conference room (Marianas Business Plaza, third floor). The afternoon session will be from 1:30pm to 4:30pm. Registration fee is \$50 per person for Chamber members and \$55 per person for non-members. Light refreshments are included. Reservations and advance payment are required, as seating is limited. To register, call 234-7150 or email

coordinator@saipanchamber.com. (PR)

## AMP selected for teacher training program

For the second year in a row, American Memorial Park was one of 34 parks from across the National Park Service to be selected to participate in the Teacher Ranger Teacher Program. The purpose of the program is to provide teachers an opportunity to learn about NPS educational resources and themes while earning continuing education graduate credits through a partnership between the NPS and the University of Colorado-Denver. Applications for the program can be picked up at American Memorial Park Visitor Center or by email. The deadline for applications is April 30, 2017. To request an application, or to learn more about this program, contact Ranger Brooke Nevitt at: brooke\_nevitt@nps.gov or Pacific Historic Park education partner Jovannalyn Mafnas at 234-7207 x 2020 or jmafnas@pacifichistoricparks.org. (NPS)

## Register now for Chamber's Corporate Challenge

The 17<sup>th</sup> annual Corporate Challenge will be held on May 28, 2017, at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion in Susupe. The Saipan Chamber of

Commerce is inviting Chamber member businesses to join in the competition to win the title of Corporate Challenge champions. The Chamber is now accepting company team registrations. Space is limited to the first registered teams. The deadline for registration will be on Friday, May 19, 2017, at 5pm. To register now, or for more information, call 234-7150 or e-mail administrator@saipanchamber.com for more information or visit www. saipanchamber.com. (PR)

## Participants sought in research

Those who participated in the Pacific STAR Center for Young Writers project in 2006

are being invited to take part in a research project conducted by a CNMI resident Jennifer Furey Maratita. In 2006, young writers were asked to contribute to a book, titled We Drank Our Tears: Memories of the Battles for Saipan and Tinian as Told by Our Elders (Tuten-Puckett, 2004). Maratita's research questions will focus on the understanding of the impact this project had and its relevance in your life nowadays. The impacts of shared narratives across generations in the CNMI are of special concern. For more information, email Maratita at jennifer.maratita@waldenu. edu or call/text (670) 483-3879. **(PR)** 

## Call for historical papers

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council, University of Guam, Northern Marianas College, and Guampedia are calling for papers for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marianas History Conference. The conference will be held on Saipan on Sept. 1-3, 2017, at a venue to be announced later. The deadline for abstracts is April 28, 2017. Conference presenters will be allotted 20 minutes to present. For more information about the conference, contact council staff at 235-4785 or visit the council's website at: www.northernmarianashumanities.org. (PR)

## Long-distance relationship may be too far to overcome

EAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I have been together off and on for more than two years. We have been in a long-distance relationship the entire time. I live in California, and he lives in the Midwest. I've been trying to get him out here because I have a job I love, and he could easily get a job in his sector out here.

His issue is that this area has "too many people and is too fast-paced" for him. I'm not sure what to do. I don't want to quit my job and move there. Finding a job there wouldn't be easy since construction is not booming as much. What do I do? Do I just give up my job, or keep trying to convince him to move? Or should I cut my losses and start over?

LONG-DISTANCE DATING

DEAR LONG DISTANCE: I don't think you should give up a job you love in an environment you enjoy on the chance that this two-year relationship might become permanent. If it goes nowhere, where does that leave you? It's time to ask yourself whether you really want to tie your future to someone who prefers a different way of life. Once you answer that question, you will know what to do.

**DEAR ABBY:** My son has his master's degree in international relations, so he travels to places I will never see. He's in Italy now, and he asked me what I would like for a souvenir. I said I wanted his memories.

I asked him to get a bag and put in it menus, train tickets and bar napkins, and to jot down at night on hotel stationery what he did, saw, how the weather was. I asked him to mention anything different or unusual and collect coasters, valet stubs, anything that would help him share his experiences with me when he gets back.

I said that when we go through all the stuff, I will get my vicarious thrill then—better that than some "tchotchke" I'd have to dust. Good idea?

PROUD MOM IN FLORIDA

DEAR PROUD MOM: Great idea! As the years go on, those memory "joggers" will let you both relive the adventures he's having now, and they will become increasingly precious. I know it from experience.

**DEAR ABBY:** I am sure this issue affects many people, but I have not seen it addressed in your column. Oftentimes married partners are separated by many years in age. Eventually the older of them has to enter a long-term care facility due to a mental/physical defect.

Even though the bond and love that kept them together over the years still exists, the younger still has physical and emotional needs that can no longer be met by the older spouse. What are the ethics in the younger one having a "friend with benefits" to address those needs, if it's done discreetly without causing embarrassment and humiliation to the older spouse?

FRIENDS WITH BENEFITS

**DEAR FRIENDS:** This is a highly personal decision that

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



no one can make for anyone else. While many readers may disagree, I see nothing wrong with taking care of yourself as long as you remember you have a moral obligation to support your spouse "'til death do you part." To me that means visiting and spending time with your spouse every day to ensure his/her needs are taken care of in a compassionate and diligent manner, and to let the person know he or she is loved.

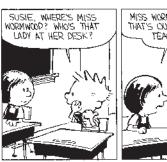
TO MY JEWISH READERS: It's time to hide the matzo again—Passover begins at sundown. Happy Passover, everyone!

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

**22** MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## **Pastimes**

## Calvin and Hobbes









By Bill Waterson

## **Garfield**®







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By Bryan Basset

## The Duplex







By Glenn McCoy

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Last Friday's Answer

STUMPED?

or answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Alex Pettyfer, 27; Haley Joel Osment, 29; Shay Mitchell, 30; Dion Phaneuf, 32.

Happy Birthday: Take your time and do things right the first time. Don't feel pressured to make a move just because someone else does. Research, educate yourself and weigh the negatives and positives carefully, but once your vision is clear and your mind is made up, act quickly. Partnerships will play an important role in the decisions you make and the direction you head. Your numbers are 4, 13, 19, 27, 30, 34, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Scrutinize any offer or information you receive carefully before you make a decision to get involved with someone that can change or influence your life. Do the best job possible and go about your business discreetly.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Look at what you can accomplish instead of laboring over what you cannot. Staying positive and giving your all will help you avoid being

criticized by people who like to meddle in other people's affairs. Don't overdo or overspend. GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your carefree attitude can get you into trouble

if you believe everything you are told. Before you offer to help someone, find out exactly what's entailed and why you are being summoned to pitch in. Refuse to be taken advantage of. **00000** 



CANCER (June 21-July 22): Choose to err on the conservative side when it comes to helping others, making donations or bringing about change. Don't make decisions based on emotions or you will face partnership problems. Concentrate on self-improvements rather than trying to change others. 33

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Share your en-

thusiasm and you will get your ideas up and running. Altering the way you do things at home or at work may meet with some controversy, but in the end you will find a way to succeed. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't labor

over what others are doing. Look at your own responsibilities and get busy chipping away at what needs to be completed before the day comes to an end. Progressive action will result in satisfaction and achievements.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll be caught in the middle of an emotional meltdown if you don't take time to deal with someone who is opposing your plans. If you offer explanations, the positive gains you make will cancel out any interference.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Speak up and let others know what you are thinking and how you feel. Your words will have an impact that will bring about positive changes at home and to the way others treat you. Romance is on the rise. 200

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Look for any opportunity you can get to network. A change to the way you work is likely and

should be handled with enthusiasm, not fear. Welcoming any sort of new beginning or change with open arms will ensure success.

EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY





CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will accomplish the most at home. Try not to venture into any situations that are unpredictable. Don't feel like you have to follow someone just because he or she is your partner or

friend. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Look for opportunities that will help you get ahead financially. A new position or investment prospect will be offered through an old friend or associate. Joint ventures are best handled conserv-

atively. Live within your means. **20000** PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Be cautious when asked to pitch in and help. Don't let anyone take advantage of you without some sort of remuneration. Be open about what you want in order to avoid disappointment. Don't promise anything you cannot deliver.

**Birthday Baby:** You are adventurous, outgoing and hardworking. You are opportunistic and per-

Eugenia's websites -- eugenialast.com for Ask Eugenia, daily timing and compatibility services, and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

4/10

		2	6	5	4	3		
	5		2				6	
6			7					5
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5								7
4	9	3		2				8
2					1			6
	7				2 8		9	
		5	3	7	8	4		

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Difficulty Level \*

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer									
1	7	5	8	2	6	4	3	9	
3	2	6	9	5	4	7	1	8	
8	4	9	7	1	3	2	5	6	ĺ
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#### Wonderword OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each latter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD. THE UPMC LEMIEUX SPORTS COMPLEX

Е	Ε	Е	Х	Р	Е	R	Т	C	S	Т	R	О	Ε	Υ
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R	Ζ	О	Ν	Α	Υ	Ν	Ν	Α	S	Α	С	Α	1	1
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Adult, Amateur, Art Rooney, Athletes, Barista, Base, Center, Clinic, Coach, Drop In, Events, Expert, Fitness, Games, Gary, Grill, Grit, Gym, Hockey, Image, Imagine, Innovator, Lemieux, Mario, Penguins, PensGear, Pittsburgh, Players, Prez, Range, Rink, Roberts, Rock, Seating, Skate, Skills, Slippery, Sports, Table, Team, Training, Viewing Rooms Last Friday's Answer: Turkey

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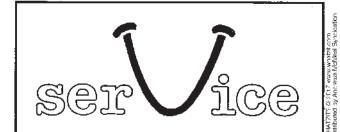
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To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than 5:00 PM on April 14, 2017. Applications for Employment are available at the Front Office of Century Tours Inc. located on the Ground Floor of Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe Village. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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## Durant shines in return from 19-game absence, knee injury



rant's first touch after missing 19 games with a knee injury? Just a driving baseline reverse and emphatic one-handed slam.

Yes, indeed, KD looks healthy and ready for the playoffs even after five weeks on the sidelines.

Durant triumphantly returned to finish with 16 points, 10 rebounds and six assists, helping the Golden State Warriors beat the undermanned New Orleans Pelicans 123-101 on Saturday night.

"You get a dunk first play of the game no matter how long you've been out that feels good," he said. "... I felt good putting my jersey on, running out with the team. It felt normal again. I'm a basketball player, I love playing basketball, that's my favorite thing to do, so to feel like I'm a part of the team, feel like I'm a part of this energy that we have feels great."

With two-time reigning MVP Stephen Curry sidelined by a bruised left knee, Durant shined in 31 minutes and the balanced Warriors won their 14th straight game -- the longest unbeaten run in the NBA this season. Durant hadn't played since getting hurt Feb. 28 at Washington and just resumed full practice Friday.

"I'm extremely proud of him, of course, as always," said mother Wanda Durant, who smiled, signed autographs and posed for selfies with fans. "We just told him to continue to work hard but not move too fast. Just told him calm down and relax, the doctors said it wouldn't be long so just wait the time and do what you need to do."

Klay Thompson scored 20 points, Draymond Green had 13 points and eight rebounds, and the do-everything Warriors sure look poised for another deep playoff run.

Coach Steve Kerr joked about "three meaningless games" remaining after the NBA's top team wrapped up the best record and No. 1 seed in the Western Conference during Wednesday's win at Phoenix.

Having Durant back certainly brought some energy.

"I think he looked great. It's going to be hard for anybody to take off a month and come back and put on a great show," Thompson said. "It was great to see that first play, him attacking the rim like that."

Durant raised both hands to the sky and pointed when he took the court before tipoff. His shot wasn't quite as consistent as usual—6 for 15 and missing all four of his 3-point tries—as he eases his way back to form after such a long layoff.



"He's been getting grumpy the last week or so. It was time," Kerr said.

Durant had an assist to Zaza Pachulia on Golden State's second possession and dished on consecutive third-quarter Warriors baskets, even bringing the ball up court on occasion in Curry's absence. He gave everybody a lift just by being back in the lineup.

"I think he's a little rusty. I think he'll tell you that." Pelicans coach Alvin Gentry said, "but believe me, they're going to be just fine."

Shaun Livingston started for Curry and had 14 points on 7-for-10 shooting and six assists, Andre Iguodala added 15 points, five rebounds and five assists, while Ian Clark (17) and JaVale McGee (16) also scored in double digits.

Kerr kept Green and Thompson below 30 minutes as planned.

Jordan Crawford scored 21 points off the bench and Alexis Ajinca added 17 as New Orleans had nine healthy bodies playing on a back-to-back following a loss at Denver on Friday.

## Trail Blazers 101, Jazz 86

In Portland, Damian Lillard

scored a franchise-record 59 points and matched his career high with nine 3-pointers to help the Portland Trail Blazers beat the Utah Jazz 101-86 on Saturday night.

Lillard surpassed Damon Stoudamire's previous record of 54 points with a step-back 3-pointer. The crowd on its feet, he raised his arms in celebration then pounded his chest.

The win kept the Blazers ahead of the Denver Nuggets for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Western Conference with just two games left.

#### **Bulls 107, Knicks 106**

In New York, Dwyane Wade returned but Chicago sustained a potentially costly loss to Brooklyn/

Spencer Dinwiddie made four free throws in the final 13.6 seconds for the Nets in their home finale. He scored 19 points, as did rookie Caris LeVert.

Jimmy Butler scored 33 points for the Bulls, who fell into a tie with Miami for eighth in the Eastern Conference.

Wade started and played 25 minutes, scoring 14 points. He had been expected to miss the remainder of the regular season when he sprained his right elbow on March 15.

## Celtics 121, **Hornets 114**

In Charlotte, Isaiah Thomas scored 32 points, and Boston remained in contention for the No. 1 seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs with a victory over Charlotte.

Al Horford added 16 points and Kelly Olynyk had 13 points and 11 rebounds for his first double-double of the season as the Celtics swept the four-game series and pulled within a half-game of the Cleveland Cavaliers.

The Cavaliers (51-28) have road games remaining against Atlanta and Miami before closing at home against Toronto. The Celtics (51-29) have two home games left, against Brooklyn and Milwaukee.

## Clippers 98, Spurs 87

In San Antonio, Chris Paul had 19 points and Los Angeles beat San Antonio for its fifth straight victory.

DeAndre Jordan added 17 points and 17 rebounds to help Los Angeles preserve its hopes of hosting a first-round playoff series.

Doc Rivers tied Mike Dunleavy for the Clippers franchise record with his 215th regular-season victory.

Golden State Warriors' Kevin Durant (35) shoots over New Orleans Pelicans' Solomon Hill during the first half of an NBA basketball game Saturday, April 8, 2017, in Oakland, Calif.

Kawhi Leonard had 28 points, and LaMarcus Aldridge added 18 points for San Antonio. The Spurs closed out their home schedule with just their 10th loss at the AT&T Center.

#### Heat 106, Wizards 103

In Washington, Hassan Whiteside scored 30 points and James Johnson hit a layup with 11 seconds left to give Miami a victory over Washington.

Johnson beat Markieff Morris to the basket for the go-ahead basket, Kelly Oubre Jr. threw away the inbounds pass and Josh Richardson made two free throws to seal it as the Heat moved into a tie for eighth in the Eastern Conference. The Chicago Bulls, who lost to the Brooklyn Nets earlier. own the tiebreaker.

The Wizards had no answer inside for Whiteside, who was 12 of 19 from the floor and grabbed 12 rebounds. His 30 points were two short of a ca-

After missing his first four shots, Goran Dragic finished with 18 points, and Tyler Johnson scored 19 with four 3-pointers.

## **Bucks 90, Sixers 82**

In Philadelphia, Giannis Antetokounmpo had 20 points, 10 rebounds and six assists, and Milwaukee beat Philadelphia to clinch a playoff berth.

The Bucks, who snapped a three-game losing streak, began the night needing a victory and a loss by either Chicago, Indiana or Miami to secure their second postseason berth in three years. Antetokounmpo scored eight points in the third quarter, when the Bucks (41-39) outscored the Sixers 25-12 to take command.

Greg Monroe added 17 points off the bench for Milwaukee, which limited Philadelphia to 35 percent shooting, including 25.8 percent from 3-point range.

Matthew Dellavedova contributed 14 points for the Bucks.

#### Pacers 127, Magic 112

In Orlando, Paul George scored 37 points and Myles Turner added 23 points and 10 rebounds to help Indiana move a step closer to a playoff berth with a victory over Orlando.

The Pacers pulled a game ahead of Chicago and Miami for seventh place in the Eastern Conference and climbed back to .500 with their third straight victory.

Terrence Ross had 29 points for the Magic, while Evan Fournier had 23 and Aaron Gordon added 17. Orlando has lost six of its last seven.

Elfrid Payton had 10 points and 10 assists, but Orlando's perimeter game was no match for the Pacers' strength around the basket.

Indiana's starting frontcourt of George, Thaddeus Young and Turner was a combined 20 of 24 (83.3 percent) in the first half, when the Pacers took a 68-59 lead.

## Falcons sign CB Trufant to \$69 million extension



FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga. (AP)—The Atlanta Falcons have agreed to a

\$69 million, five-year contract extension with cornerback Desmond Trufant, locking up another key member for the team that won the NFC championship.

The deal was Atlanta's top priority of the offseason and includes \$42 million in guaranteed money.

General manager Thomas Dimitroff says the 2013 firstround pick "has improved each year and we believe his best ball is still in front of him."

Last season, Trufant played nine games before going on injured reserve with a pectoral injury, missing the team's run to the Super Bowl, where they lost in overtime to the New England Patriots.

Trufant, a 2015 Pro Bowl selection, becomes the ninth player the Falcons have either re-signed or extended going back to last season, including cornerback Robert Alford and offensive tackle Ryan Schraeder.

In New York, the Jets have signed former Canadian Football League All-Star cornerback John Ojo.

Ojo spent the last three seasons with the Edmonton Eskimos. He helped them win the Grey Cup in 2015 and was selected a CFL West All-Star that season after having five interceptions and 41 tackles.

Ojo, 27, missed all of last season with an injured Achilles tendon and was not resigned by the Eskimos.

He was undrafted out of Florida A&M in 2014 and tried out for Seattle that spring, but was not signed.

## Cardinals beat Reds, spoil Arroyo's return to majors



**ST. LOUIS** — (AP)--Michael

start of the season was just what the St. Louis Cardinals wanted.

Wacha pitched six fine innings and the Cardinals, behind two home runs from Aledmys Diaz, beat the Cincinnati Reds 10-4 Saturday to spoil Bronson Arroyo's return to the majors.

"Michael was great," Cardinals manager Mike Matheny said.

Reds manager Bryan Price thought Wacha looked like his old self.

"Velocity was back up," Price said. "I think his hallmark of his game is the downhill plane and he was at the bottom of the zone and below with his fastball."

Wacha (1-0) allowed three hits and a run, striking out six and walking one. The Cardinals ended a three-game skid and stopped the Reds' threegame winning streak.

Wacha went 17-7 with a 3.38 ERA in 30 starts in 2015, but struggled a year ago, going 7-7 with a 5.09 ERA in 138 innings. He earned the fifth spot in the rotation with a strong spring, posting a 2.42 ERA in 26 innings over seven starts.

"I was able to establish the fastball down in the zone and was able to work that changeup off of it and I was able get some swings and misses on it," Wacha said

The Reds called up 40-yearold Arroyo (0-1) to make the start. The right-hander, who spent 2 1/2 years out of the major leagues with elbow and shoulder troubles, allowed six earned runs on six hits over four innings, with three strikeouts and three walks.

## Phillies 17, Nationals 3

In Philadelphia, Howie Kendrick had a bases-loaded triple while Philadelphia scored 12

Wacha's first

runs for the biggest first inning in team history, and the Phillies routed the Washington Nationals 17-3 on Saturday night.

Philadelphia piled up nine hits and four walks off Jeremy Guthrie (0-1) and Enny Romero in the first. The Phillies didn't hit any homers in the inning, but did have three doubles. Maikel Franco, Michael Saunders and Tommy Joseph each had two RBI while Washington set a team mark for runs allowed in an inning.

#### Orioles 5, Yankees 4

In Baltimore, Hyun Soo Kim hit a tiebreaking RBI single off Dellin Betances in the seventh inning after a rare stolen base by slugger Mark Trumbo, and Baltimore remained the only unbeaten team in the majors by rallying past New York.

One day after making up a four-run deficit, the Orioles came back from being down 4-1 and improved this season to 4-0.

#### Diamondbacks 11, **Indians 2**

In Phoenix, David Peralta hit

a go-ahead solo homer in the sixth inning and Arizona came from behind again before pulling away late.

Peralta's second home run of the season pinged off the right field foul pole with one out to give the Diamondbacks a 2-1 lead against starter Trevor Bauer.

#### Angels 5, Mariners 4

In Anaheim, Mike Trout hit a tiebreaking homer in the seventh inning and Andrelton Simmons made a spectacular tag at third base to complete a double play during Los Angeles' fourth victory in five

Simmons made the latest jaw-dropping defensive play in a week full of gems by the Angels.

## Cubs 11, Brewers 6

In Milwaukee, NL MVP Kris Bryant broke out of his early slump by driving in his first three runs of the season and Chicago overcame a shaky start by Kyle Hendricks to beat Milwaukee.

Bryant had managed a mere single in 16 at-bats this year before going 3 for 6.

He hit a two-run double in the third inning and an RBI single in the fourth.

## **Athletics 6, Rangers 1**

In Arlington, Kendall Graveman held Texas hitless until Mike Napoli homered with two outs in the seventh inning, and Oakland beat the Rangers.

Graveman (2-0) gave up two hits in seven innings, striking out five and walking one. He won on opening day, too, starting in place of injured Sonny Gray.

## **Rockies 4, Dodgers 2**

In Denver, Clayton Kershaw surrendered back-to-back homers for the first time in his career, with Mark Reynolds and Gerardo Parra going deep in the sixth to help Colorado beat Los Angeles.

Reynolds lined a two-run homer off Kershaw (1-1). Three pitches later, Parra followed with a solo shot to help the Rockies improve to 5-1 for the third time in franchise history.

## Padres 2, Giants 1

In San Diego, rookie Manuel Margot doubled twice off Madison Bumgarner, Jhoulys Chacin and two relieves held San Francisco to five hits and San Diego beat the

Margot stayed hot a day after hitting his first two big league home runs in a homeopening win against the Gi-

#### Royals 7, Astros 3

In Houston, Cheslor Cuthbert hit a solo homer early and Eric Hosmer and Salvador Perez both went deep during a sixrun eighth inning, helping Kansas City rally over Hous-

The Royals trailed 2-1 and managed just two hits off Dallas Keuchel before Luke Gregerson (0-1) took over for the eighth.

## Marlins 8, Mets 1

In New York, Marcell Ozuna hit a mammoth home run and Adam Conley allowed one hit through five innings to lead Miami over New York.

Christian Yelich crashed into the outfield fence for a fantastic catch that robbed Yoenis Cespedes of extra bases in the eighth.

St. Louis Cardinals third baseman Greg Garcia knocks down a ground ball off the bat of Cincinnati Reds' Patrick Kivlehan during the eighth inning of a baseball game Saturday, April 8, 2017, at Busch Stadium in St. Louis. Kivlehan was out at first.

#### Rays 3, Blue Jays 2

In St. Petersburg, Toronto reliever Casey Lawrence made his major league debut and wound up walking home the winning run with two outs in the 11th inning.

Mallex Smith got on base five straight times and scored on Brad Miller's walk to end it.

#### White Sox 6, Twins 2

In Chicago, Avisail Garcia homered and went 3 for 4 with three RBI and Geovany Soto also went deep, helping Chicago hand Minnesota its first loss of the season.

Garcia fell a double shy of the cycle. He had a two-run triple in the second inning against Minnesota Adalberto Mejia (0-1).

#### Pirates 6, Braves 4

In Pittsburgh, Gregory Polanco had no trouble with R.A. Dickey's knuckleball, getting three of his four hits and driving in a run off the starter to lead Pittsburgh over Atlanta.

Chad Kuhl (1-0) worked five occasionally wild innings to pick up the win. Tony Watson pitched out of a two-on, one-out jam for his second save in two days.

#### Tigers 4, Red Sox 1

In Detroit, Jordan Zimmermann pitched six solid innings, and Jose Iglesias and James McCann homered in Detroit's victory over Boston.

Zimmermann (1-0) labored early but allowed only one run and four hits.

## Rose, Garcia tied for lead at Masters in prelude to finale

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP)— Justin Rose had a back-nine charge so common at Augusta National. Sergio Garcia finally caught a good break in a major. Jordan Spieth got his name high on those famous white leaderboards, the only spot he has ever occupied on the weekend at the Masters.

Saturday had something for everyone at the Masters, including the promise of more to come

"Saturday's gone and now Sunday's coming - a very exciting Sunday," Garcia said after making a 7-foot par putt on the final hole for a 2-under 70 to share the lead with Rose. "Just make sure we have a good chance coming into the last five or six holes, and see

what happens."

Garcia, the most vexed player without a major in his generation, hung his head when a 4-iron from the first cut of rough on the par-5 13th came out soft and disappeared into the tributary of Rae's Creek in front of the green. Just his luck, the ball bounced softly off the bank and stayed up, and from there the Spaniard hit a tough chip to tap-in range to turn potential bogey into a birdie.

Rose was an afterthought, five shots behind, when his tee shot to a left pin on the par-3 12th dropped in 5 feet from the hole for the first of five birdies on the back nine. He took care of the par 5s and then finished with a 20-foot birdie on the the 18th for a Saturday-best

Rose has a share of the 54-hole lead for the first time in a major. He also has a U.S. Open title from Merion and an Olympic gold medal from Rio. And when he surveyed the landscape, he's not

sure any of that matters. There is too much golf left. There are too many capable players. Too much can happen around this place.

"A one-shot lead starting the day doesn't mean much," Rose said. "You're going to have to go out and play a good round of golf, and I think there's going to be four or five

17th and a 12-footer birdie on guys pretty much with the same mindset tomorrow."

Rose and Garcia were at 6-under 210, and that one-shot lead they share was over Rickie Fowler, who has never been this close to the lead in a major going into the final round. Fowler also

has never felt better about his game or his chances.

He didn't do anything special except to birdie all the par 5s to offset a few miscues in his round of 71.

"I don't think anyone is going to put themselves far enough out front where they can cruise in," Fowler said.

Perhaps the most daunting name at Augusta National

was Spieth, who began this Masters with a quadruplebogey 9 on the 15th hole of the opening round and was 10 shots out of the lead when he trudged off the course on Thursday.

He went 29 straight holes without a bogey until a threeputt from below the ridge on the par-3 16th. By then, he already was squarely back in the mix with a few good bounces and his frightening touch on the greens. He also pulled off a shot from the pine straw on the 13th by telling his caddie, "What would Arnie do?"

It was his way of saying Arnold Palmer would go for it, and his way of letting Michael Greller know that Spieth was

feeling it. He drilled a 5-iron into 30 feet and narrowly missed the eagle putt. Two holes later, he nearly holed a wedge from the 15th fairway.

Spieth had a two-shot lead with 11 holes to play in his Masters debut in 2014 and was runner-up to Bubba Watson. He went wire-to-wire to win in 2015. And he threw away a five-shot lead on the back nine last year for another runner-up finish.

Here he is again.

"Waking up and you have a chance to win your favorite tournament that you've dreamt of winning and competing in since you were a kid, and to be able to have your fourth opportunity now ... I didn't know going into my first one if I would have five chances in my life," Spieth said. "So it's

## US, Mexico and Canada to make joint bid for 2026 World Cup

NEW YORK (AP)—The United States, Mexico and Canada are going to announce a joint bid for the 2026 World Cup on Monday, a person familiar with the decision said.

The Confederation of North and Central America and Caribbean Association Football is moving ahead with the bid that was widely expected before Donald Trump was elected president. There has been concern the plan was unworkable under Trump's anti-immigrant policies, but even if he serves a second term Trump would not be president in 2026.

The confederation made the final decision to go ahead with the bid at its meeting Saturday in Aruba, the person said, speaking on condition of anonymity because the bid will not formally be announced until Monday in Manhattan. In a news release, CONCACAF said the countries will be making a "historic announcement."

The hosting rights are set to



be decided in May 2020 - during Trump's potential re-election campaign.

CONCACAF has not hosted the World Cup since the

tournament was played at nine U.S. venues in 1994, and the region appears to be the leading contender for 2026, when soccer's premier event ex-

"I think now that there is happen," former U.S. for-

pands from 32 nations to 48.

the potential of 48 teams then a three-nation tournament can

how many automatic bids would be awarded to the three-way host. FIFA is considering a plan

in which CONCACAF would have six automatic berths, and the three co-hosts would get three of those under the proposal. CONCACAF currently gets three automatic slots and

United States' Graham Zusi

fight for the ball with Panama's

Abdiel Arroyo during a 2018

World Cup qualifying soccer

match in Panama City, Tuesday,

ward and ESPN analyst Tay-

lor Twellman said. "Does the

U.S. need the other two? No, they don't but it does make

for a unique opportunity

for North America to

A successful North

American bid appears

because those continents will

have hosted the previous two

tournaments. South American

soccer leaders are hoping to

host a centenary World Cup in

2030. And bidding experts say

privately that Africa is not a re-

alistic option this time around.

other soccer federations is

Of potential concern to

host the tournament."

possible. FIFA barred

Europe and Asia from

entering the 2026 race

March 28, 2017.

its fourth-place team advances to a playoff for another.

In 2010, the United States lost in bids to host the 2018 (Russia) and '22 (Qatar) World Cups, a process discredited by corruption allegations linked to the bidding.

The fallout from the two FIFA executive committee votes included the ouster of president Sepp Blatter and the criminal indictments in the

> U.S. of more than 40 people. Probes of FIFA corruption are still underway in the U.S. and Switzerland.

**CONCACAF** The 2026 bid vote will be taken by the entire FIFA membership.

> Sunil Gulati, a FIFA executive committee member who is also president of the U.S. Soccer Federation, had said the U.S. would have to see changes in the bidding process before participating again.

> More should be known in May. FIFA has said it "defined a set of principles for countries to bid" with new emphasis on human rights compliance and inclusion of only bidders that meet technical requirements.

> The rules should be announced around its annual congress, on May 11 in Manama, Bahrain.

## Pacquiao to fight Jeff Horn in Brisbane on July 2

**AUSTRALIA** (AP)—Manny Pacquiao will extend his illustrious boxing career with a fight against a little-known former schoolteacher who never expected he'd get a shot at such a legend of the ring.

Pacquiao will take on Australian Jeff Horn on July 2 at Brisbane's 52,500-capacity Suncorp Stadium in a defense of Pacquiao's WBO welterweight title.

Promoters for Horn, a 29-year-old and the No. 2 contender, had been working on a possible deal to fight Pacquiao since January, and finally made the announcement on Sunday with state government officials in attendance.

Pacquiao and his camp had attempted to line up a higherpaying fight with Britain's Amir Khan in the Middle East which never eventuated, stalling the negotiations for several

The 38-year-old Pacquiao is an 11-time world champion over eight weight divisions and is now a senator in the Philippines. He has a record of 59-6-2 while Horn is 16-0-1.

The bout, being dubbed by organizers as "Australia's biggest-ever fight," is expected to be held at the open-air stadium around midday or early afternoon Sunday, July 2, coinciding with a prime-time television audience back in the United States on the Saturday night, July 1.

And although Brisbane has a subtropical climate, July is right in the middle of the southern hemisphere winter, where temperatures should be in the low 20s Celsius (around 68 Fahrenheit).

"Pacquiao and his manag-

ers sound a bit confident and cocky," Horn, who fought at the London Olympics in 2012, said at the press conference Sunday which Pacquiao did not attend.

"It's like 'we will just take this fight, come to Brisbane, knock over Jeff Horn, make their millions and go do the Khan fight'. I hope he keeps feeling that way."

There was no immediate reaction from Pacquiao via a statement or on social media. His last Twitter comment on April 1 included a photo of himself, his wife and five children wishing everyone a "Happy Sunday."

Horn said he may be not well-known but believed the Pacquiao fight would allow him make a name for himself.

"Amir Khan is a big name even though he has been knocked out so many times," Horn said. "But this is my chance to make a name for myself."

"I never thought Pacquiao would still be around when I got my world title shot. He is getting a bit older, I am still young. I am ready to take this shot and I am ready to take it off Pacquiao."

The fight was secured by the Queensland state government and the city of Brisbane.

"Up to 55,000 boxing fans from across Australia and the world are expected to fill Suncorp Stadium to see the local teacher taking on one of the biggest names in boxing history, on his home turf," said Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk.

"The match is a highlight on the state's major events calendar and is set to deliver an economic boost to the city."

## **PIRATES-1**

From Page 28

winners added four insurance runs in the fifth.

The Pirates-1 improved to a 2-8 record, while the Ol'Aces fell to a 1-7 mark.

In the first game, McDonald's also found its target early to save the win-its sixth in 10 games. McDonald's scored six runs in the first two innings against only one from the Twins. Shortstop L.J. Reyes tallied two of those six runs and also recorded two RBIs, one double, and one triple, while closer Tony Acosta added a pair of runs.

The Twins' first run was courtesy of leadoff batter Terrel Rabago, who reached home off an Albert Adriano's RBI single at the bottom of the first inning. The Twins then went scoreless in the second and third inning before logging four runs in the fourth one came from Eliray Castro's solo homer—to threaten Mc-Donald's 5-6.

However, McDonald's hung on with Acosta, who relieved Dillon Santos, struck out the Twins' first three batters in the fifth inning and fanned out two more in the last inning, which he closed with a 1-3 putout play.

#### MHS

From Page 28

and Eun Syu Hahn alternately soared for several spikes with Matthew Mamaril setting them up.

With the exchanges in the net favoring GCA, the Eagles built an 8-3 lead, forcing MHS to call an early timeout. After the brief lull, GCA still kept its momentum, while the Dolphins committed a couple of service errors and setting violations, allowing the Eagles to take a 13-7 advantage.

This time, MHS did not press the panic button, and Lizama and company regrouped with the lanky player's spike over Hahn and Hinson tying the game,

14-all. GCA then regained the upper hand after winning the short exchange, 19-15, prompting MHS to call another timeout.

The Dolphins then fought back after the break and moved within one, 20-21. It was a close battle from thereon with the second set tied for the last time at 23-all, after Hahn's spike slipped off Ngirarois' hands.

GCA got the ball back with Mamaril serving and MHS received it before setting up Lizama for the kill with the leather passing in between two Eagles defenders and dropping to an unguarded spot at the center of GCA's court. Lizama went on to finish off the Eagles with another

booming spike that this time dropped to the backline with a GCA player receiving it, but his return went wide to the

GCA advanced to the finals first after beating Tinian High School in the winner's bracket semis, 25-12, 15-21. Tinian dropped to the loser's bracket and battled MHS for the last finals ticket. The Dolphins denied Tinian for the second time after posting a 25-18, 25-20 triumph. Before facing Tinian, MHS lost to GCA in the quarterfinals of the winner's bracket, 25-18, 25-21, and had to beat Mt. Carmel School, 25-16, 25-22, and MHS junior varsity, 25-23, 24-26, 15-7, to keep its finals hopes alive.

#### SCHMIDT

From Page 28

his collection. The TanHoldings wingman gave his team a perfect record (7-0) in the regular season as he averaged more than 20 points per game. Then in their first three games in the playoffs, he topscored for TanHoldings to lift the eventual champion past Konstrak Builders, CUC, and McDonald's.

In Game 1 of finals, Tan-Holdings fell behind by double-digits early in the match and midway in the fourth quarter, but managed to escape with a 97-94 win behind Schmidt's 13 points in that period alone. He then played through pain due to sprain in

their Game 2 loss, 80-89, but still fired 18 points. Schmidt eventually sat out in Game 3.

Despite missing its best player in Game 3, TanHoldings survived and won the finals series as several players stepped up in absence of Schmidt. One of them was Bart Demapan, who scored a game-high 26 points in the deciding Game 3. He started the series with a so-so performance (5 points in Game 1), but came out swinging in Game 2, exploding for 33 markers.

Meanwhile, Prince Factor and Jun Fidelino of the runner-up Mariana Resort joined Schmidt, Best Deal/RNV Construction's Ronald Rueda, and McDonald's Gil Gapor in the Mythical Five Selection.

Other individual awardees Coca-Cola/Subway's Michael Cabanas (Sportsmanship Award); Westco's Joey Ejercito and Coca-Cola/ Subway's Jojo Felix (Executives of the Year): Mariana Resort's Frank Lifoifoi (Sixth Man of the Year), Melvin Sakisat (Best in 3-Points), and Factor (Best in Blocks); McDonald's Sherwin Gaspar (Most Improved Player): Best Deal/RNV's Andy Mortos (Best in Rebounds), and TanHoldings' Elmer Esdrelon (Best in Assists).

Players and team officials present at the awards ceremony received their trophies from JEM Company LTD owners Edward and Jovita Flores.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2017 **27** 

# JEM Company Ltd./Mobil Basketball League Finals

## PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Mariana Resort's Carlo Prado, right, tries to dribble past the defense of TanHoldings' Jarett Matsutaro during the deciding Game 3 of their title series in the JEM Company Ltd./Mobil Customer Appreciation Basketball League last Wednesday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.



Mariana Resort's Prince Factor, left, beats TanHoldings' Arjay Non-ato to the rebound.



TanHoldings' Jarett Matsutaro pulls up for a triple against Mariana Resort's Melvin Sakisat.



TanHoldings' Arjay Nonato, left, unloads an open layup.





TanHoldings' Elmer Esdrelon, center, is hounded by Mariana Resort's J.R. Lifoifoi, left, and Jun Fidelino.



Mariana Resort's Arthur James, left, and Melvin Sakisat, right, and TanHoldings' Bart Demapan wait for the ball to drop before contesting the rebound.



TanHoldings' Bart Demapan, center, takes off for a shot against Mariana Resort's Prince Factor, left, and Melvin Sakisat.



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Durant shines in return from 19game absence, knee injury

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Cardinals beat Reds, spoil Arroyo's return to majors

PAGE 25



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# MHS rallies to win boys v-ball title

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com

arianas High School's varsity team fought out of the loser's bracket and emerged as the winner in the boys division of the 2016-2017 Public School System Volleyball Tournament held over the weekend at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



Academy in Games 1 and 2 of the finals. The Eagles had a twice-to-beat in the championship round after sweeping their first three games and getting the first finals berth.

In Game 1, MHS and GCA

## Schmidt brings home regular season MVP, 4 other awards



their regular season game against Docomo in the JEM/Mobil caging last month at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

TanHoldings' Douglas Schmidt did not play in their title-clinching 91-88 win in Game 3 over Mariana Resort, but he had done so much in the previous games that were enough to earn him five individual awards in the JEM Company Ltd./ Mobil Customer Appreciation Basketball League.

Schmidt was named the regular season MVP and added If the Rookie of the Year, Best in Steals, Defensive Player, and Mythical Five awards to

See SCHMIDT on Page 26



went neck-and-neck in the early part of the first and second sets, but the Dolphins proved to be steadier in the homestretch to pull off a 25-19, 25-17 victory and set a rubber.

In the deciding Game 2,

which was played 10 minutes after Game 1 and served as MHS' fourth straight match last Saturday, the Dolphins showed little signs of exhaustion as they cruised to a 25-14 win in the opening set and moved closer to the title.

Then in the second set, fatigue started to take its toll on MHS, as Luther Lizama, Troy Ngirarois, and Benjami Seman hit wide shots and the rest of their teammates were a step

slower in receiving the ball. The Eagles, on the other hand, seemed to have found their form with the championship on the line, as Allan Hinson

See MHS on Page 26

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

## Pirates-1, McDonalds down opponents

The Pirates-1 and Mcmatch. The Pirates-1 got Donald's prevailed in two runs in the first the pair of games in the Major division of the 2017 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge"

ond inning.

Basa Pangelinan Ballfield. McDonald's was the first to register a win after outclassing the Twins, 7-5, while the Pirates-1 triumphed in the last match against the Ol'Aces, 16-11.

The Pirates-1 built enough cushion in the early innings to withstand the Ol'Aces' late rally, as the former established a 12-3 advantage after three complete innings.

G-Boy Pangelinan shut down the Ol'Aces in the first two innings to help the Pirates-1 take control of the

inning and performed better at the plate in the second, firing seven runs to open a 9-0 lead. Kazu Dela Cruz had an RBI double, while Clarke McDonald and Evan Mendiola made an RBI single each in the sec-

In the third inning, the Ol'Aces finally lit up the board and scored three runs, however they only matched the production of the Pirates-1 at the top of that frame, allowing the latter to keep a good lead. The Pirates-1 went on to stay on top despite the Ol'Aces' eight-runs in the last three innings, as the eventual

See PIRATES-1 on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Pirates-1 pitcher catches the ball thrown from home plate during a warm-up for their game against the Ol'Aces in the Majors division of the 2017 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.